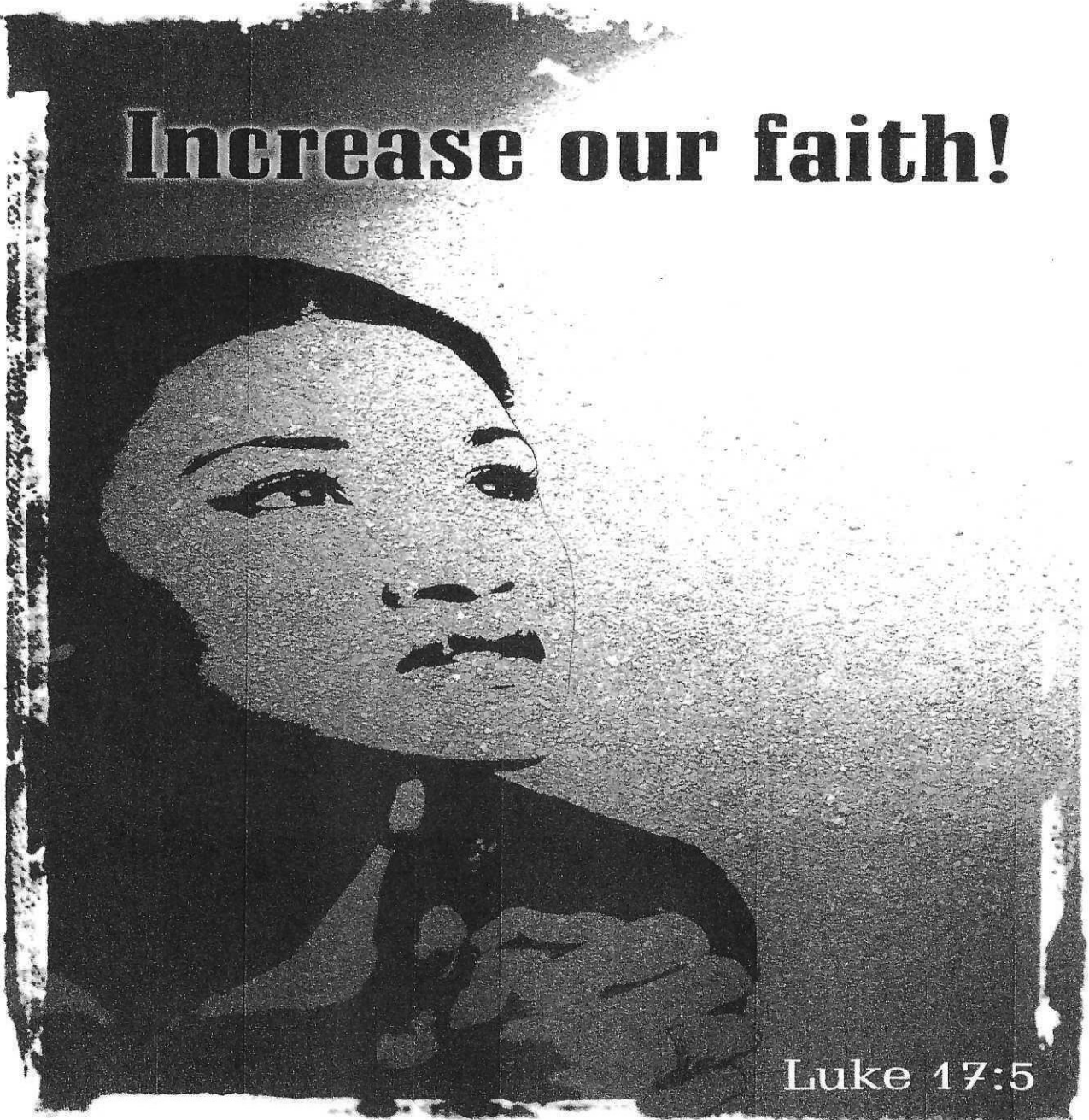


Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Hillsboro, Texas



Increase our faith!

Luke 17:5

18th Sunday after Pentecost

THE HUMILITY AND POWER OF FAITH

October 12, 2025

TODAY'S MESSAGE: THE HUMILITY AND POWER OF FAITH

As Christians, we carry with us and within us both great humility and great power. In today's Gospel Reading, Jesus uses the example of a mustard seed. A mustard seed is very small and humble, but it has within it the power to grow into a large plant. The humility and power that the mustard seed represents is the humility and the power of our faith. With God-given faith in our hearts, we humbly confess our sins and trust in Jesus for forgiveness and salvation. And with that same faith in our hearts, we have the power (the power of Jesus) to defeat the attacks of our sinful flesh, the world and Satan, we are strengthened and empowered for daily service to our neighbor, and we have victory over death and the promise of eternal life.



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

Opening Hymn

“Lord Jesus Christ, be Present Now”

LSB 902

**Lord Jesus Christ, be present now. Our hearts in true devotion bow.
Your Spirit send with light divine, and let Your truth within us shine.**

**Unseal our lips to sing Your praise, in endless hymns through all our days.
Increase our faith and light our minds. And set us free from doubt that blinds.**

**Then shall we join the hosts that cry, “O holy, holy Lord Most High!”
And in the light of that blest place, we then shall see You face to face.**

**All glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity, be praise throughout eternity!**

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.

Psalm 124:8

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

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

Psalm 32:5

C: *(sung)* **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

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 62:1-8

P: For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.

C: **He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.**

P: How long will all of you attack a man to batter him, like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?

C: **They only plan to thrust him down from his high position. They take pleasure in falsehood. They bless with their mouths, but inwardly they curse.**

P: For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him.

C: **He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.**

P: On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

C: **Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.**

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

“Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing”

LSB 584

**Faith and truth and life bestowing, open now the Scriptures, Lord,
Seed to life eternal sowing, scattered on the wind abroad.
Let not hearts, your Word receiving, like a barren field be found.
Choked with thorns and unbelieving, shallow earth or stony ground.**

**May the Spirit’s pow’r unceasing, bring to life the hidden grain,
Daily in our hearts increasing, bearing fruit that shall remain.
So in Scriptures, song, and story, Savior, may your voice be heard.
Till our eyes behold your glory, give us ears to hear your Word.**

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

P: The Lord be with you.

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

Opening Prayer

P: Let us pray.

ALL: Heavenly Father, your power is made known in showing mercy. Teach us to forgive one another and to do what you have commanded, and because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without your aid, empower us by your Holy Spirit and increase our faith so that we can please you in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading [ESV]

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw. O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth. For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted. . . . I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint. And the LORD answered me: “Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end – it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading [ESV]

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus. To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading [ESV]

Luke 17:1-10

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 17th chapter.

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him." The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

"Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'? Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink'? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children's Message

**I know my faith is founded, on Jesus Christ, my God and Lord.
And this my faith confessing, unmoved I stand on His sure Word.
Our reason cannot fathom, the truth of God profound.
Who trusts in human wisdom, relies on shifting ground.
God's Word is all sufficient, it makes divinely sure.
And trusting in its wisdom, my faith shall rest secure.**

**Increase my faith, dear Savior, for Satan seeks by night and day,
To rob me of this treasure, and take my hope of bliss away.
But, Lord, with You beside me, I shall be undismayed.
And led by Your good Spirit, I shall be unafraid.
Abide with me, O Savior, a firmer faith bestow.
Then I shall bid defiance, to ev'ry evil foe.**

**In faith, Lord, let me serve You. Though persecution, grief, and pain,
Should seek to overwhelm me, let me a steadfast trust retain.
And then at my departure, Lord, take me home to You,
Your riches to inherit, as all You said holds true.
In life and death, Lord, keep me, until Your heav'n I gain,
Where I by Your great mercy, the end of faith attain.**

Sermon

THE HUMILITY AND POWER OF FAITH

"The righteous shall live by his faith."

Habakkuk 2:4

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.

Psalm 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 . . .

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 . . .

In the same way also he took the cup after supper . . .

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

"O God, Forsake Me Not"

LSB 731

**O God, forsake me not! Your gracious presence lend me.
Lord, lead Your helpless child. Your Holy Spirit send me.
That I my course may run, O be my light, my lot.
My staff, my rock, my shield. O God, forsake me not!**

**O God, forsake me not! Take not Your Spirit from me.
Do not permit the might, of sin to overcome me.
Increase my feeble faith, which You alone have wrought.
O be my strength and pow'r. O God, forsake me not!**

**O God, forsake me not! Lord, hear my supplication!
In ev'ry evil hour, help me resist temptation.
And when the prince of hell, my conscience seeks to blot,
Be then not far from me. O God, forsake me not!**

**O God, forsake me not! Lord, I am Yours forever.
O keep me strong in faith, that I may leave You never.
Grant me a blessed end, when my good fight is fought.
Help me in life and death. O God, forsake me not!**

"How Firm a Foundation"

LSB 728

**How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**"Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid.
I'll strengthen you, help you and cause you to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand."**

**"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes.
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"**

**"When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
My grace, all sufficient, will be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you, I only design,
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine."**

**"Throughout all their lifetime, My people will prove,
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love.
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne."**

**If thou but trust in God to guide thee, and hope in Him through all thy ways,
He'll give thee strength whate'er betide thee and bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love, builds on the rock that naught can move.**

**What can these anxious cares avail thee, these never ceasing moans and sighs?
What can it help if thou be-wail thee, o'er each dark moment as it flies?
Our cross and trials do but press, the heavier for our bitterness.**

**Be patient and await His leisure, in cheerful hope, with heart content,
To take what'er thy Father's pleasure, and His discerning love hath sent.
Nor doubt our inmost wants are known, to Him who chose us for His own.**

**God knows full well when times of gladness, shall be the needful thing for thee.
When He has tried thy soul with sadness, and from all guile has found thee free,
He comes to thee all unaware, and makes thee own His loving care.**

**Nor think amid the fiery trial, that God hath cast thee off unheard,
That he whose hopes meet no denial, must surely be of God preferred.
Time passes and much change doth bring, and sets a bound to ev'rything.**

**All are alike before the Highest. 'Tis easy for our God, we know,
To raise thee up, though low thou liest, to make the rich man poor and low.
True wonders still by Him are wrought, who setteth up and brings to naught.**

**Sing, pray and keep His ways unswerving, perform thy duties faithfully,
And trust His Word, though undeserving, thou yet shalt find it true for thee.
God never yet forsook in need, the soul that trusted Him indeed.**

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.

Psalm 107:1

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Let us pray.

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.

Psalm 103:1

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

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

"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!**