

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



ESTHER 4:9-17 AND MATTHEW 16:13-20

"The Great Confession of the Apostle Peter"

**ANTE COMMUNION
13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 23, 2026**

**lutheranchapelchurch.org
(704) 864-6491**

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL
SERVICE OF ANTE COMMUNION**

***BOLD** indicates congregational responses - * Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.*

GATHER

PRELUDE

"Gentle Spirit"

Charles Callahan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Matthew 28:19b

C: Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

1 John 1:8-9

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us recite the gift of the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment and use these teachings to examine our lives.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 20:1-17

- 1. I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of slavery; you shall have no other gods.**
- 2. You shall not make wrongful use of the Name of the LORD your God.**
- 3. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.**
- 4. Honor your father and mother.**
- 5. You shall not murder.**
- 6. You shall not commit adultery.**
- 7. You shall not steal.**
- 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**
- 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or (husband).**

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

Mark 12:28-31

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

P: Let us kneel or sit for a time of silent confession and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority. I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

***THE APOSTOLIC GREETING**

2 Corinthians 13:13

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

***THE KYRIE**

Mark 10:47, WOV pg. 28

AM: Kyrie eleison **C: Lord, have mercy.**
AM: Christe eleison **C: Christ, have mercy.**
AM: Kyrie eleison **C: Lord, have mercy.**

***GLORY TO GOD**

Luke 2:14, John 1:29, WOV pg. 29

Refrain

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.**

Verse 1

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

Refrain

Verse 2

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.**

Refrain

Verse 3

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Refrain

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

(In Unison)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

C: O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

ESTHER 4:9-17

⁹ Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. ¹⁰ Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai: ¹¹ "All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that, if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law: to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter to someone may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days." ¹² When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, ¹³ Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. ¹⁴ **For if**

you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.”¹⁵ Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai,¹⁶ “Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.”¹⁷ Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

STORY OF SALVATION TIMELINE

The timeline below offers an overview of the Story of Salvation lesson from Genesis to Revelation. The + marks where we are now. Memory verse is in bold.

Creation : Fall : Promise : Exodus : Conquest : Judges : Kings and Prophets : Exile :
+Restoration : 2nd Temple : JESUS : Apostles : Last Day : New Creation

PSALM 138



- ¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- ² I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.
- ³ When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.
- ⁴ All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

Refrain

- ⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.
- ⁶ The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.
- ⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.
- ⁸ You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.

Refrain

ROMANS 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68

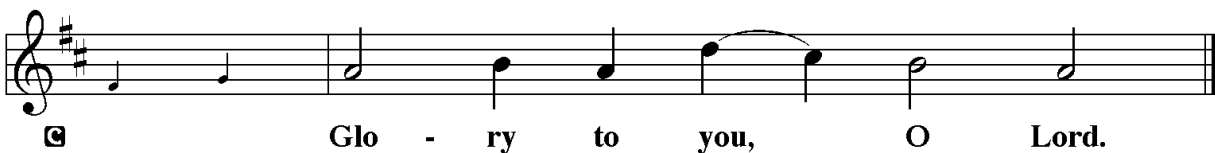
Alleluia. Lord to who shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

*GOSPEL

MATTHEW 16:13-20

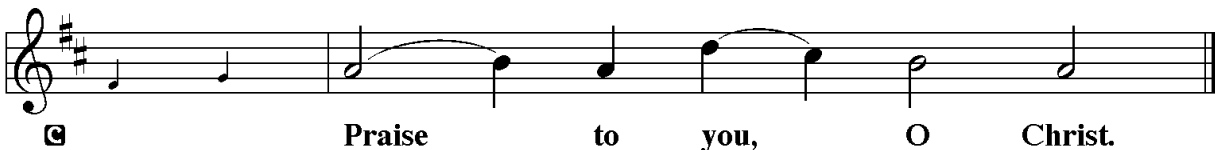
Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.

Response after the announcement:



¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

“The Great Confession of the Apostle Peter”

On the Journey of Queen Esther
Confessors that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus' saving power: I fail to see the Kingdom now due to all these worldly anxieties. Wrong.

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus' ultimate saving power: Day by day, humbly and confidently confessing Jesus is Lord, let us fight the good fight of faith, hope, and love in this time and place.

So What?/Plain Sense: What is going on in your life? Where is God in all this? What one thing did you learn from the Word of the Lord? What one question do you have from the Word of the Lord? Be able to share your faith story (to this point) with others.

***HYMN OF THE DAY** *"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"*

ELW #659

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.

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.

***THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Philippians 4:7

P: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Malachi 3:10, Matthew 23:23, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Wir Glauben All An Einen Gott"

J Pachelbel

***OFFERTORY**

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Psalms 51:10-12

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

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

(In Unison)

C: Blessed are You, O God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with Your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

AM: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond **Hear our prayers.**

Prayers are commended in Jesus' Name.

AM: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Matthew 6:9-13

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

**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.**

SENDING

***BENEDICTION**

***RECESSIONAL HYMN**

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

ELW #623

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Postlude in B Flat"

William Faulkes



In Honor &
MEMORY

OUR ALTAR FLOWERS: Are given to the Glory of God in memory of Buck Cloninger, given by Larry and Brooks Cloninger.

Serving the
CHURCH

Ministers.....People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor.....Michael Comer
Activities Director.....Brit Borders
Administrative Assistant.....Susan Hibschi
Director of Music Ministries.....Kathie Riebe
Choir Accompanist.....Anna Gilreath
Assistant Minister.....Chris Lowe
Acolyte.....Luke Hoffman
Lector.....Gwen Lewis
Crucifer.....Will Clark
Head Ushers.....Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR.....Ervin Hoffman
Council Members of the Month.....Matt Hoffman and Jenny Williamson

Upcoming EVENTS



GENERAL INFORMATION: If your family is in need of a **nursery** attendant during the 10:00 service, please let our ushers know and they will contact one of our attendants. **Restrooms** are located on the bottom floor of the Sanctuary. Additional restrooms are located in the Educational Building and *do not require the use of stairs*. If needed, please see an usher for assistance in locating them.

TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS ONLINE: This **QR** code goes straight to the “Easy Tithe” page on the website that accepts tithes and offerings electronically.



LCC MOVIE NIGHT: It’s happening **September 19, 2026!** 🎁 🎬

This night is for everyone! We’re opening the doors and inviting our community to come be a part of the fun, fellowship, and a movie night experience. Bring your family, invite friends, and come enjoy a night together! More details coming soon. Save the date!

HOMEcoming/FRIEND SUNDAY: The Worship & Music and Outreach teams invite you to join Homecoming/Friend Sunday on **Sunday, September 27th**. Lunch will follow the worship service, and we invite you to bring a dish to share.

SPEAKER CAITLIN REESE KILLIAN: The Esther Circle at Lutheran Chapel Church invites all ladies of the church and their guests to join us for our **October 5th meeting at 10:00 am**. We are honored to welcome Caitlin Reese Killian as our guest speaker, as she shares her inspiring cancer journey, faith, and message of hope and perseverance. Please call the church office or Judy Anton at **704-867-1309** by **September 27th** if you plan to attend. Be sure to let us know how many will be attending with you so we can plan accordingly.

LOVE OFFERING FOR AUGUST: August’s love offering will be donated to Crisis Assistance Ministry. They provide food, rent/mortgage, and utility assistance for people in need in our community. This ministry would not be possible without the financial gifts, food donations, and volunteer hours provided by 58 congregations in our county. Please continue to place food donations in the blue box in our Sunday School wing and in the basket in the Narthex of the Sanctuary. Please check the expiration dates of all donated food items. Please prayerfully consider a donation and help CAM!



Are you feeling a call to participate in our worship in a musical way?

Please call Kathie at 704-864-6491 if you would like to sing in the Chancel Choir, ring with the Chapel Ringers or play an instrument with our Instrument Ensemble.

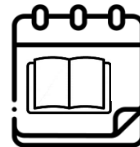
No music degree required.

Weekly CALENDAR



Sunday, August 23	8:00 am	Morning Prayer (Chapel)
	8:30 am	Fellowship
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	4:00 - 6:00	Life in Christ (Fellowship Hall)
	8:00 pm	Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)
Monday, August 24	8:30 am	Preschool Fall Session Begins
Tuesday, August 25	8:30 am	Preschool
	10:00 am	Clothing Closet Workday
	6:00 pm	Pickup Basketball (Family Life Center)
Wednesday, August 26	8:30 am	Preschool
	6:00 pm	Suffrages and the Chosen (Chapel)
Thursday, August 27	8:30 am	Preschool
Friday, August 28		Office closed
Saturday, August 29	9:30 am	Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, August 30	8:00 am	Morning Prayer (Chapel)
	8:30 am	Fellowship
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
	11:30 am	Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
	8:00 pm	Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)

Next Week's LESSONS



Wednesday, August 26

Vespers and the Chosen - Psalm 119:33-40 "*He*" and The Chosen "*Invitations*"

Sunday, August 30

Morning Prayer - Galatians 6:11-18 "*The Israel of God*"

Bible Study -

Chapel Class – Acts 28 "*Paul's Impatience with Jewish Mission*"

Fellowship Class – Matthew 26 "*Our Atonement*"

Joy Class – Ruth 3 and 4 "*Redemption*"

Story of Salvation (Church Facebook Page) "*On the Prophet Malachi*"

Worship - Daniel 3:1-29 and Matthew 14:22-33 "*Master of Sea and Storm*"



DAILY PRAYER - A HOME ALTAR ALTERS THE HOME!: Sunrise, noon, sunset and at meals are times for daily prayer (*Psalms 1, 55:17*). May God bless you as you turn to Him day by day.

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 34 August 23 to August 30, 2026. Read the whole Bible.

08/23 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 6—Evening Reading: Psalms 113, 114, 115
 08/24 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:1-19—Evening Reading: Psalms 116, 117, 118
 08/25 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:20-40—Evening Reading: Psalms 119:1-88
 08/26 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 8—Evening Reading: Psalms 119:89-176
 08/27 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 9—Evening Reading: Psalms 120, 121, 122
 08/28 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-18—Evening Reading: Psalms 123, 124, 125
 08/29 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:19-33—Evening Reading: Psalms 126, 127, 128
 08/30 Morning Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:1-16—Evening Reading: Psalms 129, 130, 131

This QR code goes to the Daily prayers page on the website with commemorations for the week. Daily devotions are at Our Daily Bread odbm.org

THE PSALMS - Pray the Prayer book the Holy Spirit gives!

Holy Trinity to St. Peter and St. Paul - God: Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit grows His Christian Church with prophets, apostles and martyrs.



	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Morning</i>	95, 1	95, 9	95, 16	95, 23	95, 25	95, 31	95, 37
<i>Evening</i>	3	15	22	24	29	34	41

Invitatory through St. Peter and St. Paul: The Lord has gathered us in the true faith: O come let us worship Him.

Antiphon through St. Peter and St. Paul: Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will act. (Psalm 37:5)

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: Olivia Berghello, Shirley Bradley, Miles Carpenter, Todd Carpenter, George Cashion, Renee Dockery, Deborah Gault, Baker Hampton, **David Harill**, Norman Overcash, Pat Robinson and Keith Yarborough.

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Kathy Bradley, Deborah Carpenter, Doris Coggins, Lisa Deal, Debbie Dempel, Genniser Devega, Tucker Doyne, Carolyn Gantt, Abi Gordon, Terri Hartsfield, John, Sherry McCart, Jake Parks, John and Ann Peters, Rita Pasour, Jeff Smith, Christy Carpenter Smith, Charlene Sorenson, Horace Turner, Judy Turner, Daniel Wankel, Lougene Webber, Starr Wilhite, and For our Nation and Military during Operation Epic Fury.

To share concerns and updates for the prayer list contact the church office (704-864-6491) or call/text Pastor Comer (704-787-6439).

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
 3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
 win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
 you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.
 Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
 5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as

Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
 on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
 of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
 laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
 Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant, too.
 walk the mile and bear the load.
 speak the peace you long to hear.
 till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 let you be my ser - vant, too.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953

Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928

Text and music © 1977 Scripture In Song, c/o Integrity's Hosanna Music (ASCAP).

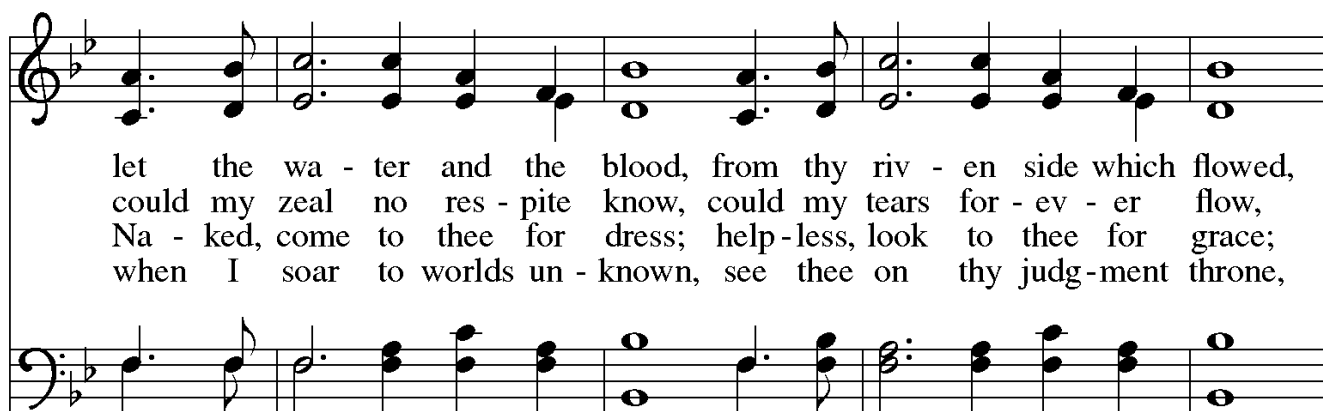
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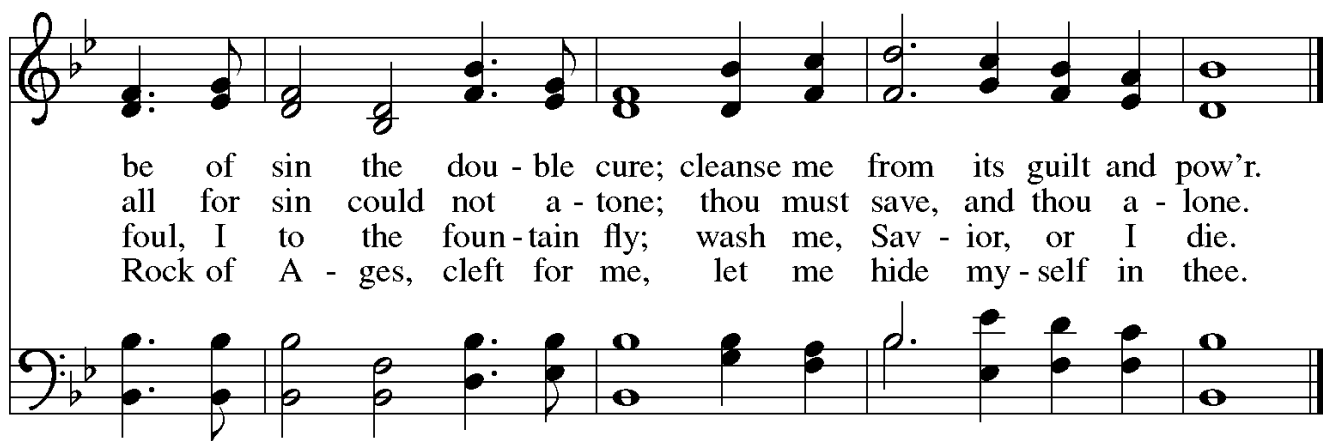
Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778
Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872