SHEPHERD
OF THE LAKES

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Praying

August 6, 2017

SHEPHERD
OF THE LAKES
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome! Thank you for being here at church this morning. What is the point of coming to church? 2 reasons: **#1:** We gather before the almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. **#2:** We gather to be strengthened through God's love—through the study of God's perfect and powerful word—the Bible.

For the Children:

Bible activity sheets and crayons are located on the back table—feel free to get one from the usher.

A staffed nursery is available for any parents who would like to make use of it. We love having babies and young children in worship (even crying ones!), but we offer a staffed nursery to help enable parents & caretakers to be able to be able to focus and worship as well.

Restrooms are located across the hall from the worship space.

WORSHIP SERIES: *The BASICS*

In an age when nearly everything is advertised as new and improved, when technology promises to make life easier and simpler, but often merely adds to stress and makes life more complex, and when views on the Bible's message and Christianity are more varied and full of more questions than ever, we need to get back to the basics. And so this summer, that is what we'll do. As we study the the book of Romans, chapters 1-8, we will dive into the basics of the Christian faith, one word at a time.

June 11th:	Atonement	**July 16th:**	Battling (Sin)
June 18th:	Righteousness	**July 23rd:**	Longing (Eschatology)
June 25th:	Reconciliation	**August 6th:**	Praying (Prayer)
July 2nd:	Reversal	**August 13th:**	Chosen (Predestination)
July 9th:	Buried (Baptism)	**August 20th:**	Inseparable (Providence)

TODAY'S THEME: *Praying*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our guests! We pray your time spent in God's Word this morning brought you the peace and joy that only God can give. We are glad you are with us and hope you learn from God's Word with us again soon!

Thank you! to Tom and Sue Pederson for donating the altar flowers this morning in thanks for their wedding anniversary (7/25) God bless you, Tom & Sue, with many more years of marriage!

Member Directory Photos will be taken after worship the next 2 Sundays. Due to a computer malfunction (technology these days, am I right?), even if you've already gotten your picture taken, please get a new one taken .

Wednesday, August 9th, 6pm — Building Committee Meeting @ the Ministry Center.

Sunday, August 13th, 9:30am — *Very Important Chapters of the Bible* — a study for all ages. (Ephesians 5 — *Marriage*)

Sunday, August 13th, 10:30am — The BASICS: *Chosen* (Romans 8:28-30 — *Predestination*)

Wednesday, August 30th — *A Return To Grace: Luther's Life and Legacy* is a new Martin Luther movie, and Shepherd of the Lakes and Gloria Dei Lutheran of Grand Blanc are sponsoring a showing at *The Rave* Cinema just off of Corunna Road in Flint. Visit **MyShepherdChurch.com** for more information and to order tickets! Limited tickets are available, so sign up soon!

Sunday, September 10th — Outdoor Worship @ the ministry center — "*Who Is God?*" Sign up to bring a dish to pass in the coming weeks. Also feel free to bring lawn chairs and any sort of shade-giving tent you might have!

Volunteers for 8/13 (Thank you for your service!):
Snacks: Zeeb Family
Altar: Elaine Sharer
Usher: Earl Hagstrom
Counters: Joe Butterfield & Michael Witt
Nursery: Melissa Crane

Volunteers for *Today* (Thank you for your service!):
Counters: Joe Butterfield & Michael Witt
Nursery: Becky Loersch

Pastor: Nathan Loersch
Mobile: 810.224.1250 (Call or Text)
Email: pastorloersch@gmail.com
Website: myshepherdchurch.com
Shepherd of the Lakes is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).

SHEPHERD
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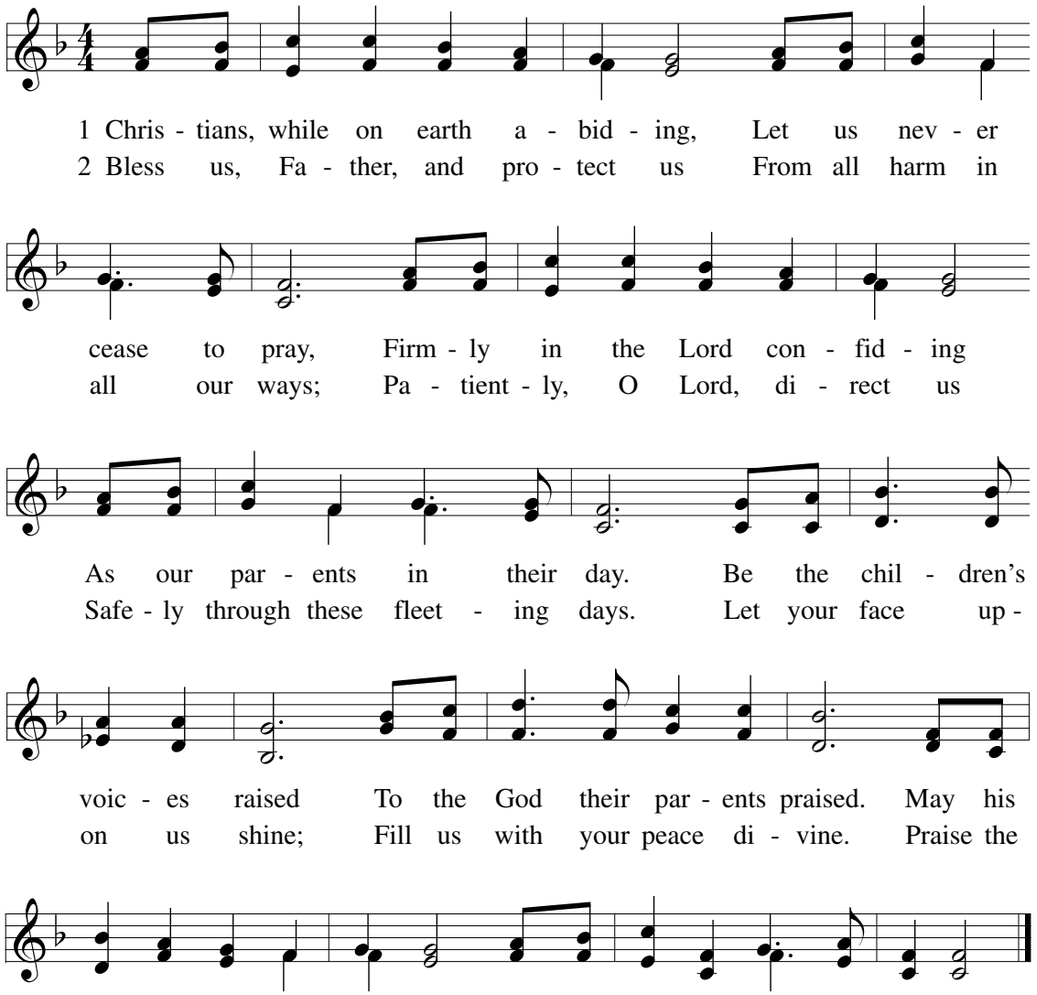
CLOSING HYMN

Christians, While on Earth Abiding

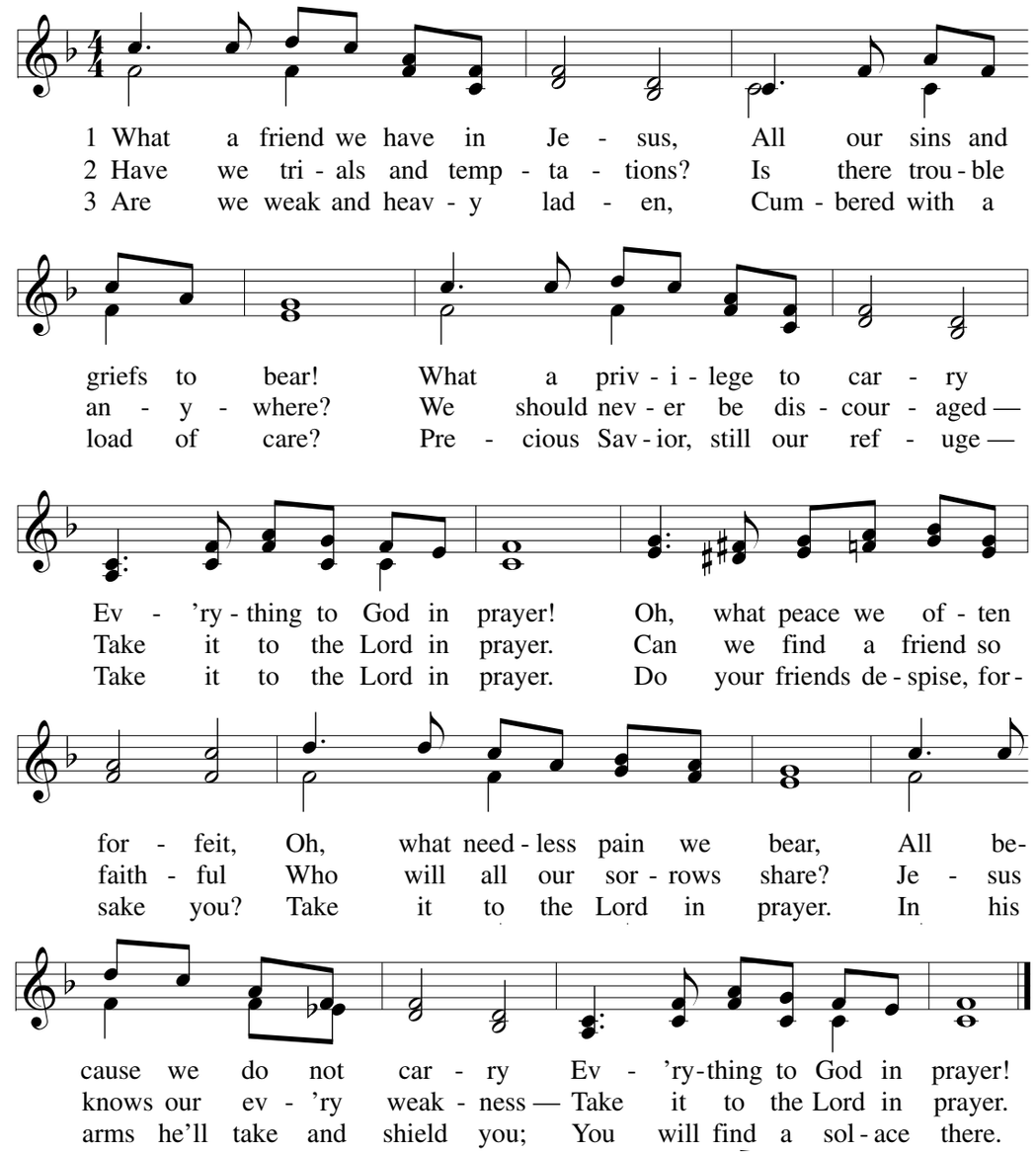
As we begin our week, may we show our confidence in God's promises by praying to him!



OPENING HYMN

What A Friend We Have in Jesus

Jesus is a friend like no other—because he always listens to us, no matter what. So take it (no matter what "it" is!) to the Lord in prayer!



INVOCATION

M(inister): We begin in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C(ongregation): Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ to forgive us.

A moment of silence for private confession

C: Jesus, you sacrificed yourself to take away all our sins. The Bible shows us our sin and its consequences when it says:

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." *Romans 3:23*

"through the law we become conscious of our sin." *Romans 3:20*

"The wages of sin is death." *Romans 6:23a*

and, "just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned." *Romans 5:12*

M: God also tells us in the Bible:

"We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." *Romans 5:1*

"just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people." *Romans 5:18*

"the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." *Romans 6:23b*

and, "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." *Romans 8:1*

In other words, God says he has taken away all your sins because Jesus died in your place. All your sins have been wiped away in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

C: Amen!

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

The members of Shepherd of the Lakes congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

Please do take a moment to fill out the Connection Card in the seat back in front of you and put it in the offering plate as it goes by. There is also an opportunity to present a prayer request to Pastor.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF FAITH — *The Apostles' Creed*

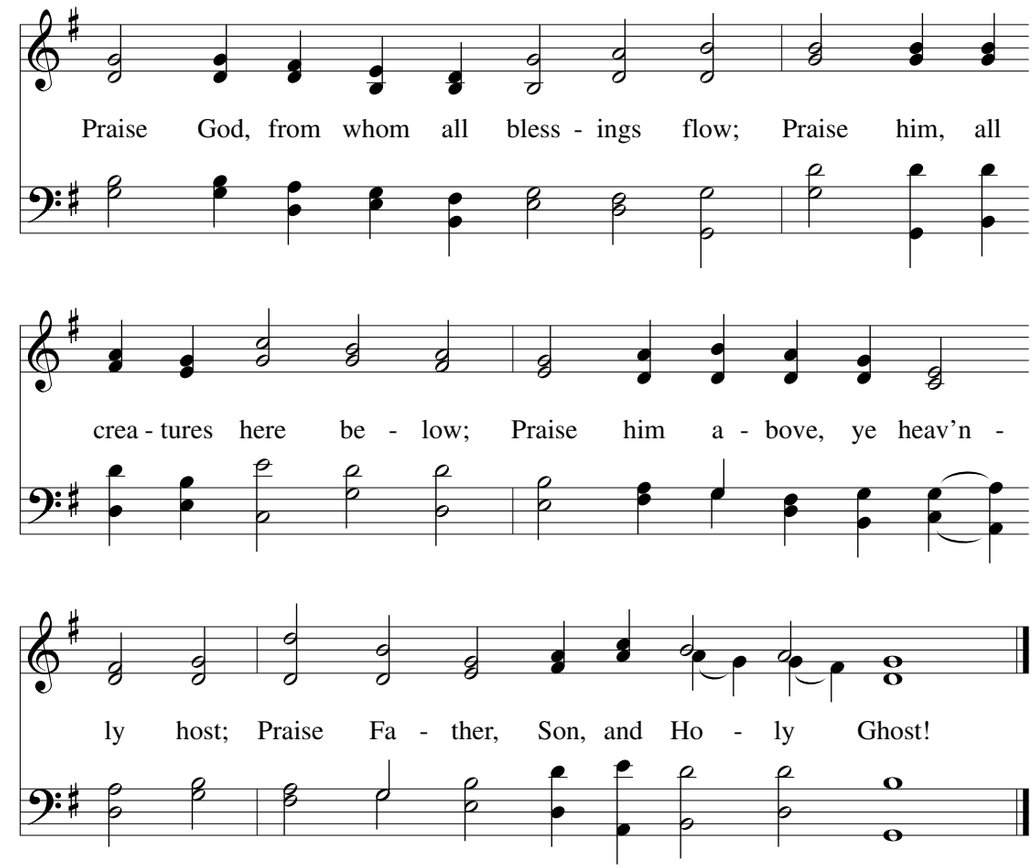
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER & PRAISE

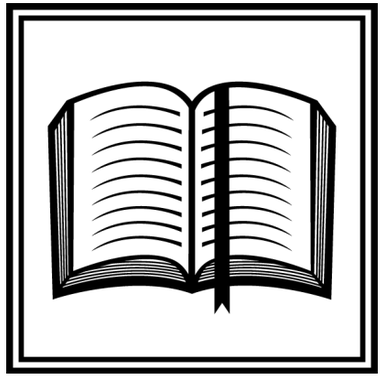
SONG OF PRAISE ***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow***



PRAYER OF THE DAY *(spoken by the pastor)*

M: Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; 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 WORD

FIRST LESSON ***Exodus 33:12-17***

As he often did, Moses simply spoke to God (that's what praying is—speaking to God), reminded God of who he is and what he had promised, and asked him to keep his promises.

12 Moses said to the Lord, "You have been telling me, 'Lead
these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will
send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you
have found favor with me.' 13 If you are pleased with me,
teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find
favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people."
14 The Lord replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I
will give you rest."
15 Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go
with us, do not send us up from here. 16 How will anyone
know that you are pleased with me and with your people
unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your
people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"
17 And the Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you
have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by
name."

Prayer = _____ to _____

"How's Your Prayer Life?"

We don't believe God is _____. (Acts 12)

We don't _____ _____ .

We're _____

We don't _____ what we _____ to pray for.

What does the Holy Spirit do?

#1: He _____ _____ us.

#2: He _____ up _____ us.

God Has Made You _____

SERMON

Romans 8:26-27

26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our
weakness. We do not know what we ought to
pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for
us through wordless groans. 27 And he who
searches our hearts knows the mind of the
Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's
people in accordance with the will of God.

PSALM ***51***

This Psalm is what King David prayed after he came to grips with his sins of adultery and murder.

M: Have mercy on me, O God,

C: according to your unfailing love;

M: according to your great compassion

C: blot out my transgressions.

M: Wash away all my iniquity

C: and cleanse me from my sin.

M: For I know my transgressions,

C: and my sin is always before me.

M: Create in me a pure heart, O God,

C: and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

M: Do not cast me from your presence

C: or take your Holy Spirit from me.

M: Restore to me the joy of your salvation

C: and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

GOSPEL

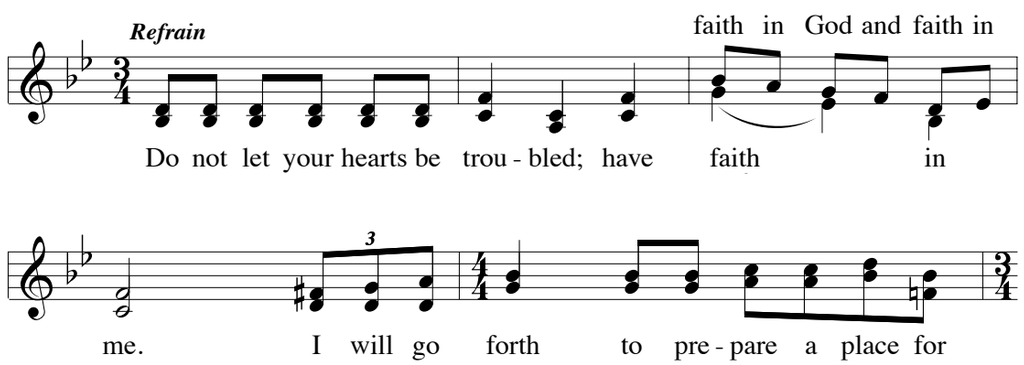
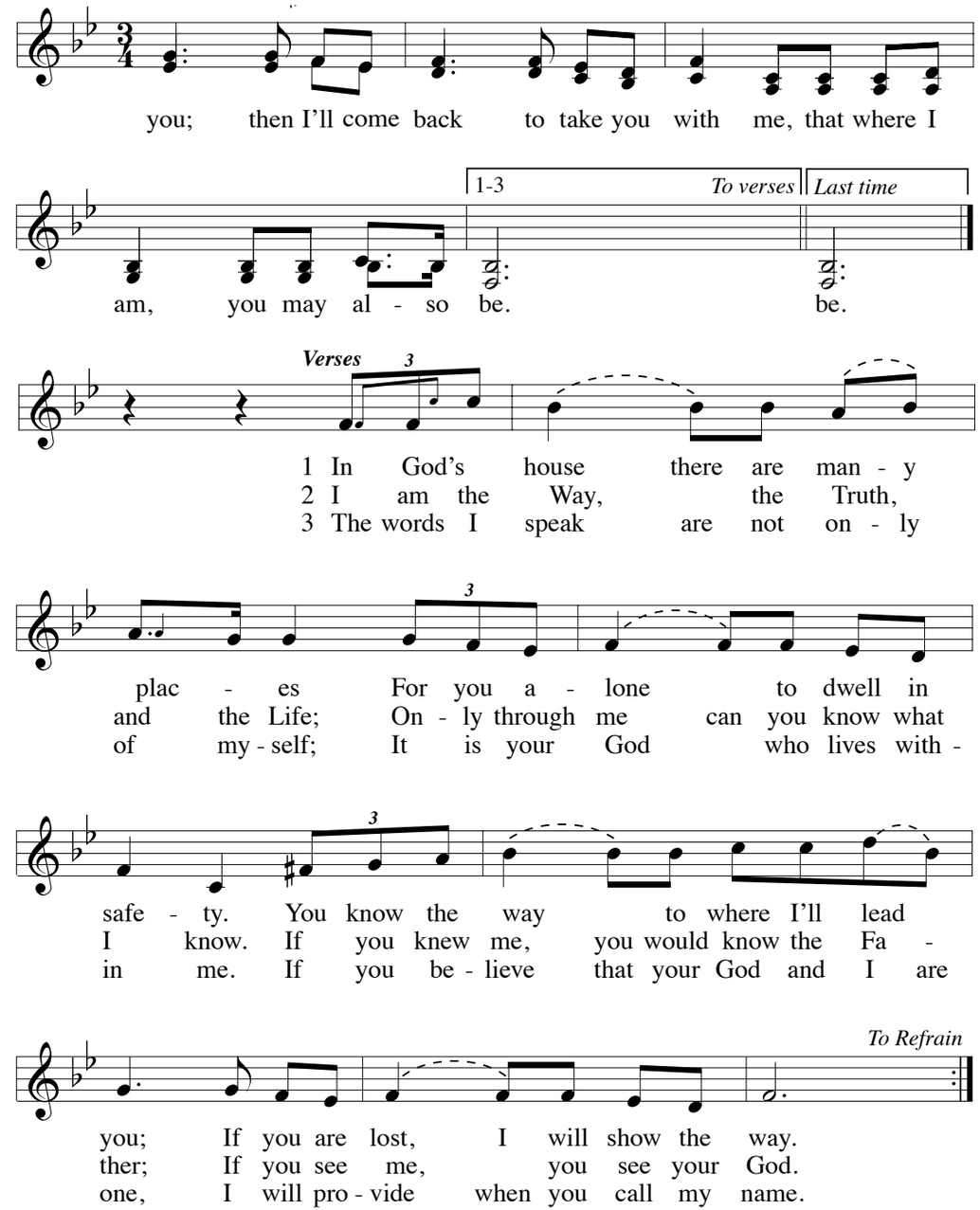
Matthew 7:7-11

Jesus encourages the people to freely pray to God, because he listens and answers!

7 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be
opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one
who knocks, the door will be opened.
9 "Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish,
will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to
your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask
him!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled

This hymn echoes Jesus' words to his disciples in John 14—words Jesus spoke to comfort them before he was betrayed, arrested, and crucified. Jesus listens to our words every time we speak to him.