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# LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK

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*Prepared by*  
The Commission on Worship  
of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



# DAILY PRAYER

## *For Individuals and Families*

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These brief services are intended as a simple form of daily prayer for individuals and families, and in other settings.

When more than one person is present, the versicles and responses may be spoken responsively, with one person reading the words in regular type and the others responding with the words in bold type. Prayers that are in bold type are to be prayed by all.

For the readings, several verses have been recommended for each particular time of day. These may be used on a rotating basis. The value in using these few texts lies in the opportunity to learn them well. For those desiring a more complete selection of readings, daily lectionaries, such as the one found on pages 299–304, may be followed. Readings from the Small Catechism (pages 321–330) may also be incorporated into the services.

In the prayers “for others and ourselves,” the following suggestions may be used to establish a pattern of daily and weekly prayer.

**Sunday:** For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and the Sacraments.

**Monday:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one’s calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.

**Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.

**Wednesday:** For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.

**Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ’s body and blood.

**Friday:** For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.

**Saturday:** For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God’s Word on the Lord’s Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ’s holy gifts.

## MORNING

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;  
**in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for You and watch.**

*Psalm 5:3*

My mouth is filled with Your praise,  
**and with Your glory all the day.**

*Psalm 71:8*

O Lord, open my lips,  
**and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

*Psalm 51:15*

**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.**

*A hymn, canticle, or psalm may be sung or spoken.*

*An appointed reading or one of the following is read: Colossians 3:1–4; Exodus 15:1–11; Isaiah 12:1–6; Matthew 20:1–16; Mark 13:32–36; Luke 24:1–9; John 21:4–14; Ephesians 4:17–24; Romans 6:1–4.*

*A portion of the Small or Large Catechism may be read.*

*The Apostles' Creed is confessed.*

*Lord's Prayer*

*Prayers for others and ourselves*

*Concluding prayers:*

Almighty God, merciful Father, who created and completed all things, on this day when the work of our calling begins anew, we implore You to create its beginning, direct its continuance, and bless its end, that our doings may be preserved from sin, our life sanctified, and our work this day be well pleasing to You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. (441)  
**Amen.**

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.** (423)

*Small Catechism*

Let us bless the Lord.

*[Psalm 103:1]*

**Thanks be to God.**

*Then go joyfully to your work.*

## NOON

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Listen to my prayer, O God, do not ignore my plea;

**hear me and answer me.**

Evening, morning, and noon

**I cry out in distress, and He hears my voice.**

Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you;

**He will never let the righteous fall.**

*Psalm 55:1–2a, 17, 22 NIV*

**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.**

*A hymn, canticle, or psalm may be sung or spoken.*

*An appointed reading or one of the following is read: 1 Corinthians 7:17a, 23–24; Luke 23:44–46; Matthew 5:13–16; Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23; Mark 13:24–27; John 15:1–9; Romans 7:18–25; Romans 12:1–2; 1 Peter 1:3–9; Revelation 7:13–17.*

O Lord,  
**have mercy upon us.**

O Christ,  
**have mercy upon us.**

O Lord,  
**have mercy upon us.**

*Mark 10:47*

*Lord's Prayer*

*Prayers for others and ourselves*

*Concluding prayer:*

Blessed Lord Jesus Christ, at this hour You hung upon the cross, stretching out Your loving arms to embrace the world in Your death. Grant that all people of the earth may look to You and see their salvation; for Your mercy's sake we pray. (442)

**Amen.**

Heavenly Father, send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts to direct and rule us according to Your will, to comfort us in all our afflictions, to defend us from all error, and to lead us into all truth; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. (443)

**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*[Psalm 103:1]*

## EARLY EVENING

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*A candle may be lighted.*

Let my prayer rise before You as incense,  
**the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

*Psalm 141:2*

Joyous light of glory:

**of the immortal Father;**

**heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.**

**We have come to the setting of the sun,**

**and we look to the evening light.**

**We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:**

**You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever.**

**O Son of God, O Giver of life: the universe proclaims Your glory.**

*A hymn, canticle, or psalm may be sung or spoken.*

*An appointed reading or one of the following is read: Luke 24:28–31; Exodus 16:11–21, 31; Isaiah 25:6–9; Matthew 14:15–21; Matthew 27:57–60; Luke 14:15–24; John 6:25–35; John 10:7–18; Ephesians 6:10–18a.*

*A portion of the Small or Large Catechism may be read.*

*Lord's Prayer*

*Prayers for others and ourselves*

*Concluding prayer:*

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for the evening is at hand and the day is past. Be our constant companion on the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope among us, that we may recognize You as You are revealed in the Scriptures and in the breaking of the bread. Grant this for Your name's sake. (444)

**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

*[Psalm 103:1]*

**Thanks be to God.**

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### Mealtime Prayers

*Asking a blessing before the meal*

**Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.** (445)

*Small Catechism*

*Returning thanks after the meal*

**We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, for all Your benefits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.** (446)

*Small Catechism*

## CLOSE OF THE DAY

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

**Amen.**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
**to sing praise to Your name, O Most High;**

To herald Your love in the morning,  
**Your truth at the close of the day.**

*Psalm 92:1–2*

*An appointed reading or one of the following is read: Matthew 11:28–30; Micah 7:18–20; Matthew 18:15–35; Matthew 25:1–13; Luke 11:1–13; Luke 12:13–34; Romans 8:31–39; 2 Corinthians 4:16–18; Revelation 21:22–22:5.*

*The Apostles' Creed is confessed.*

**Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;**

**Your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation**

**which You have prepared in the sight of every people:**

**a light to reveal You to the nations**

**and the glory of Your people Israel.**

*Luke 2:29–32*

**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.**

*Lord's Prayer*

*Prayers for others and ourselves*

*Concluding prayers:*

Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. (447)

**Amen.**

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.** (424)

*Small Catechism*

Let us bless the Lord.

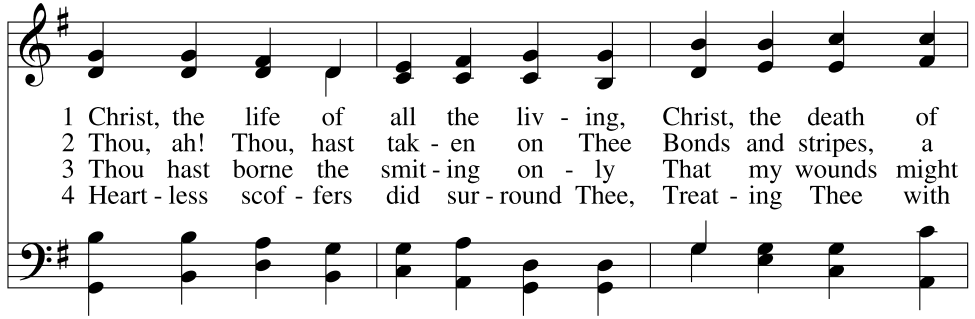
**Thanks be to God.**

*[Psalm 103:1]*

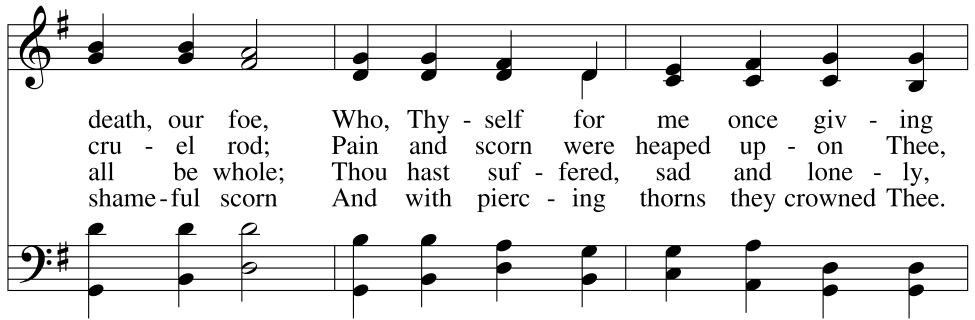
*Then go to sleep at once and in good cheer.*

## 420

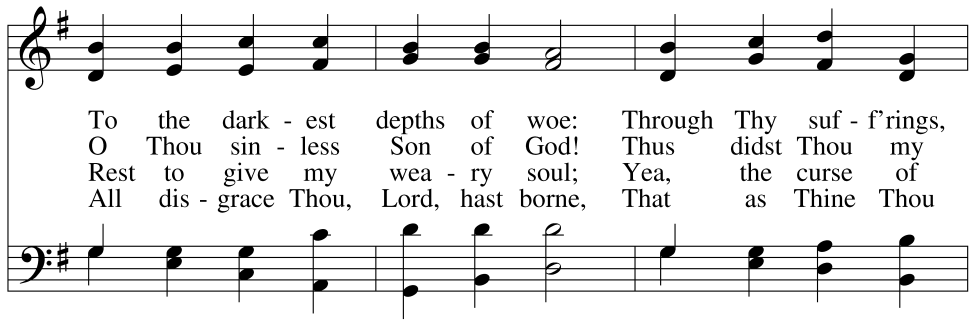
## Christ, the Life of All the Living



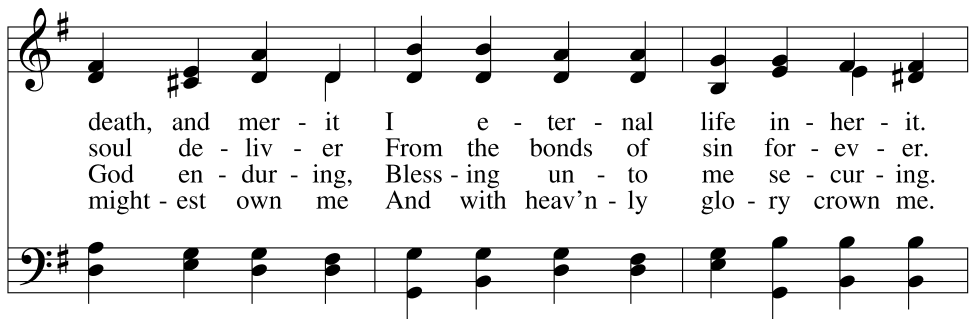
1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of  
 2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast tak - en on Thee Bonds and stripes, a  
 3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly That my wounds might  
 4 Heart - less scof - fers did sur - round Thee, Treat - ing Thee with



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing  
 cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on Thee,  
 all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,  
 shame - ful scorn And with pierc - ing thorns they crowned Thee.



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,  
 O Thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst Thou my  
 Rest to give my wea - ry soul; Yea, the curse of  
 All dis - grace Thou, Lord, hast borne, That as Thine Thou



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.  
 soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.  
 God en - dur - ing, Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.  
 might - est own me And with heav'n - ly glo - ry crown me.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, sts. 1–2, 5, 7, alt.;  
 tr. *Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book*, St. Louis, 1912, sts. 3–4, 6

Tune: *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN  
 87 87 88 77

Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
 Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
 Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
 Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.

- 5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,  
 That from pain I might be free;  
 Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:  
 Thence I gain security;  
 Comfortless Thy soul did languish  
 Me to comfort in my anguish.  
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
 Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 6 Thou hast suffered great affliction  
 And hast borne it patiently,  
 Even death by crucifixion,  
 Fully to atone for me;  
 Thou didst choose to be tormented  
 That my doom should be prevented.  
 Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
 Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

- 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,  
 For Thy sorrows deep and sore,  
 For Thine anguish in the Garden,  
 I will thank Thee evermore,  
 Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,  
 For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,  
 For that last triumphant cry,  
 And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.



## 425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

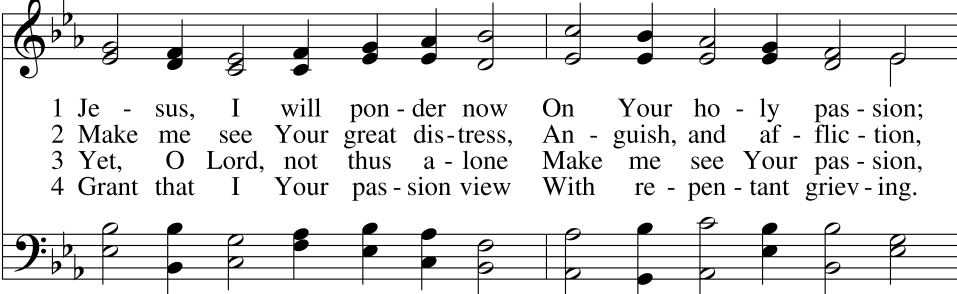
1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the  
 3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a

Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and  
 trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,

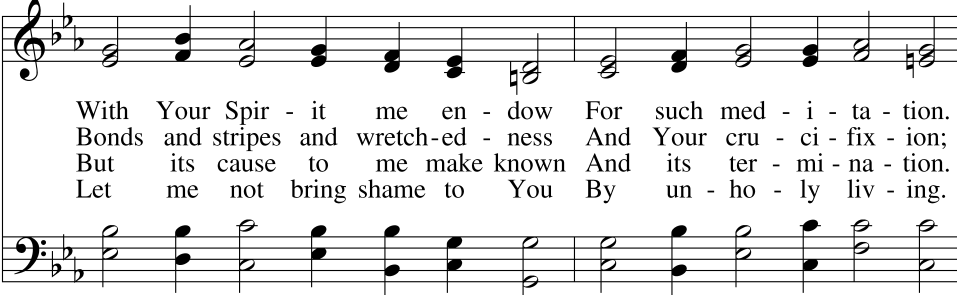
count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.  
 sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

## 440

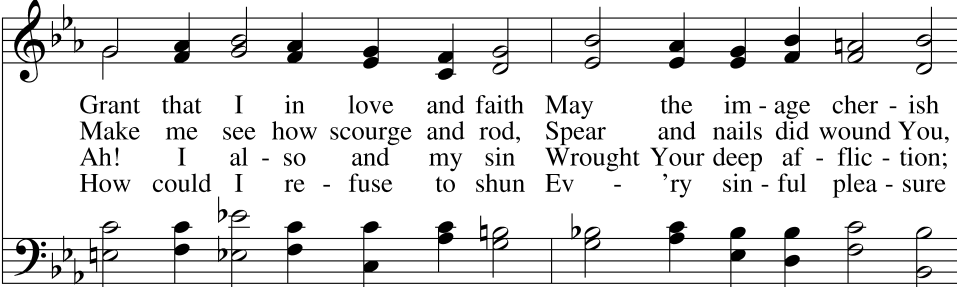
## Jesus, I Will Ponder Now



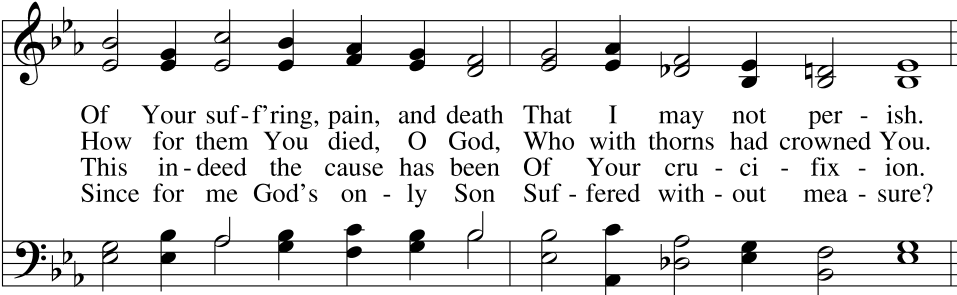
1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;  
 2 Make me see Your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,  
 3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion,  
 4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.  
 Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;  
 But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.  
 Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish  
 Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,  
 Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;  
 How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.  
 How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.  
 This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.  
 Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

- 5 Well He knows what best to grant me;  
 All the longing hopes that haunt me,  
 Joy and sorrow, have their day.  
 I shall doubt His wisdom never;  
 As God wills, so be it ever;  
 I commit to Him my way.
- 6 If my days on earth He lengthen,  
 God my weary soul will strengthen;  
 All my trust in Him I place.  
 Earthly wealth is not abiding,  
 Like a stream away is gliding;  
 Safe I anchor in His grace.

## O God, Our Help in Ages Past

733

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,  
 2 Un - der the shad-ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;  
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,  
 4 A thou-sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,

Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:  
 Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.  
 From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.  
 Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
 Soon bears us all away;  
 We fly forgotten as a dream  
 Dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,  
 Our hope for years to come,  
 Be Thou our guard while troubles last  
 And our eternal home!

An eight-stanza version of this hymn may be found in Lutheran Service Builder.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
 Tune: William Croft, 1678–1727; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

ST. ANNE  
 C M

3 Peligros, lucha y aflicción,  
 los he tenido aquí;  
 su gracia siempre me libró,  
 consuelo recibí.

4 Y cuando en Sión por siglos mil  
 brillando esté cual sol,  
 yo cantaré por siempre allí  
 a Cristo el Salvador.

# In God, My Faithful God

# 745

1 In God, my faith - ful God, I trust when dark my road;  
 2 My sins fill me with care, Yet I will not de - spair.  
 3 If death my por - tion be, It brings great gain to me;  
 4 O Je - sus Christ, my Lord, So meek in deed and word,  
 5 "So be it," then, I say With all my heart each day.

Great woes may o - ver - take me, Yet He will not for - sake me.  
 I build on Christ, who loves me; From this rock noth - ing moves me.  
 It speeds my life's en - deav - or To live with Christ for - ev - er.  
 You suf - ered death to save us Be - cause Your love would have us  
 Dear Lord, we all a - dore You, We sing for joy be - fore You.

My trou - bles He can al - ter; His hand lets noth - ing fal - ter.  
 To Him I will sur - ren - der, To Him, my soul's de - fend - er.  
 He gives me joy in sor - row, Come death now or to - mor - row.  
 Be heirs of heav'n - ly glad - ness When ends this life of sad - ness.  
 Guide us while here we wan - der Un - til we praise You yon - der.