New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



18th Sunday After Pentecost October 1, 2023 Worship Service

PRAYERS FOR OUR NJLC COMMUNITY

**new names added this week (NJLC connection)

Prayer Requests: Wayne Dunkley (NJLC member); Mack Keister (NJLC member); Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock (Judy Fox); Jane Wichmann (Toni Chancellor-Adams)

MINISTER OF MUSIC INSTALLATION TODAY

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after the service for cake, coffee and fellowship as we celebrate **Mark A.** Fletcher's installation as Minister of Music.

"GOD'S WORK.OUR HANDS": It's Time to Serve - October 1

Today is the day designated at NJ as a day of service. It's an opportunity to celebrate our love for God through service. We will worship God and bless the labors of our hands, celebrate the installation of Mark Fletcher as our Music Director, share a meal, and then get to work! "God's Work.Our Hands" service opportunities will focus on:

- 1. The wider world (Quilts for Lutheran World Relief)
- 2. Ministry at NJLC (cleaning of nursery and educational rooms)
- 3. The nearby community (Food Pantry)

Your bag filled with food items or a food card (Weiss or Giant, preferably \$25) will be collected by the children during the children's message. "God's Work.Our Hands" Sunday will kick off a once-monthly food pantry donation outreach (food items or monetary donations). Food collection Sunday will be the first Sunday of each month. Wear your "God's Work.Our Hands" shirt if you have one!

CHECK OUT THE BULLETIN BOARDS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL!

These displays, put up for Rally Day, highlight important aspects of our ministry together.

- Worship: Selected examples of how Bible-based our liturgy is.
- Learning: Details of the PRAYGROUND for children and classes for adults.
- Service: See photo of quilts from NJLC and details about Lutheran World Relief.
- Fellowship: Photos from 2022 Annual Report showing many fellowship events. (Displayed on the bottom of the Worship bulletin board.)

THE APOSTLES' CREED: AN ADULT BIBLE STUDY - begins October 8 at 11:15 am

Will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays in October and November.

- Focus on the continued relevance of the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds today.
- Look beyond the ancient wording to uncover underlying fundamental concepts of our faith.
- These two Creeds connect us with Christian believers across time (past, present, future) and around the world.

DON'T FORGET THE FAMILY HAY RIDE FOLLOWED WITH HOT DOGS/S'MORES ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, AT 3 PM

THANK YOU

Tyler and Harriet Wegmeyer and Wegmeyer Farms have provided the pumpkins for decorating the sanctuary to create the festive fall look. Thank you, Wegmeyer Farms!

LIFTERS FOR OCTOBER:

	Readers	Altar Flowers
October 1	Rob Legard	Fletcher
October 8	Curtis Adams	TBD
October 15	Linda Heffern	TBD
October 22	Kate Freeman	Garrett
October 29	Mike Zapf	Edmondson



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

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Church Office Pastor

540-822-5576 (703) 955-6714 officenjlc@gmail.com pastor.njlc@gmail.com

OUR MISSION: Responding to God's grace, we are a welcoming congregation growing in Christian faith through worship, learning, serving, and fellowship.

OUR VISION: NJLC is a compassionate community of disciples that values everyone & expresses faith by connecting with God, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, & all creation.

WELCOME TO NEW JERUSALEM

A few items of note to help you in your time here today:

MASKS — Masks are optional for worship and events at New Jerusalem, though we encourage mask wearing for anyone who chooses to do so.

NEWCOMERS — Visitors are always welcome and we invite you to sign our guestbook located in the entryway or fill out a pew card from the pew rack in front of you.

COMMUNION — Welcome to the table of Christ where we believe Christ is fully present to us in, with, and under these elements of bread and wine. You are invited to participate whether a member here or come to us from any other denominational tradition. Those not ready to receive Christ in body and blood, may still come forward to receive Christ in blessing. Follow the directions of the ushers who will dismiss each pew. As you come to the top of the center aisle, the pastor will place a wafer in your hands and invite you to step to the side to take an individual cup of wine (first tray) or grape juice (second). Please receive and then discard cups in the receptacle along the altar rail. If you cannot come forward, communion can be brought to you after all have communed at the front.

CHILDREN — We seek to be a family-friendly congregation who enjoys having children among us, including the littler ones. We have a Cherub's Corner in the fellowship hall downstairs with age appropriate toys, books, etc. and the worship service can be heard over the speakers. Should you have the need/desire to utilize our staffed Sunday Morning Nursery, it is located in the end room of the education building.

HANDICAP ACCESSABILITY — Handicap accessible restrooms are located downstairs at the back of our Fellowship Hall or across in our Education Building. Someone is available to run the lift should you need to get up and down between levels.

We hope that in your time among us, you will encounter the love of God in Spirit!



The altar flowers are given by Mark A. Fletcher to the glory of God, in memory of Isabella Fletcher, and in recognition of his installation as Minister of Music.

To provide altar flowers for an upcoming Sunday, sign-up on the 2023 Flower Chart located in the church hallway or contact the church office.

Introduction

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

GATHERING

READER FOR TODAY

Rob Legard

PRELUDE

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" Mark A. Fletcher, organ By Ludwig van Beethoven Donald K. Burgess, piano (arr. by Don Wyrtzen & Don Hustad)

We prepare our hearts and minds for worship during the prelude.

WELCOME

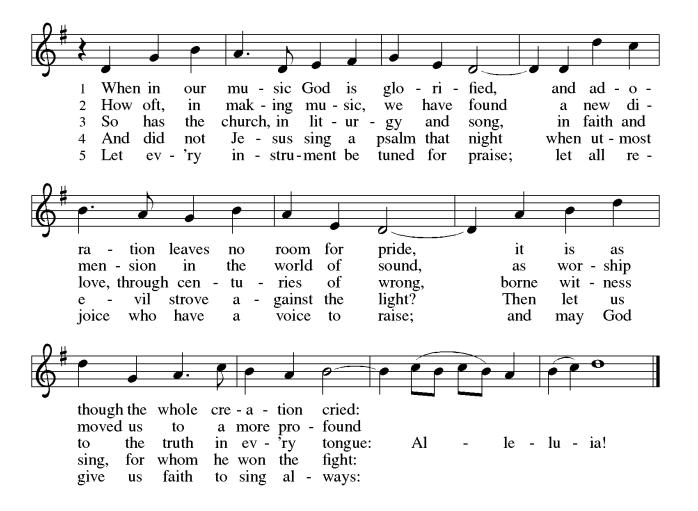
Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

"When in Our Music God Is Glorified" (see music on next page)

ELW 851

When in Our Music God Is Glorified



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie



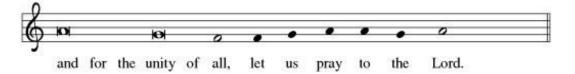


For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,





Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A men.

Canticle of Praise



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray...

People: God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us

your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and quide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior

and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Reader: The first reading for today is recorded in the book of Ezekiel...

¹The word of the Lord came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. 4Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. ²⁵Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? 32 For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

Reader: The second reading for today is recorded in the book of Philippians...

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁵but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁶he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁶Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹0 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹1 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹2 Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹3 for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

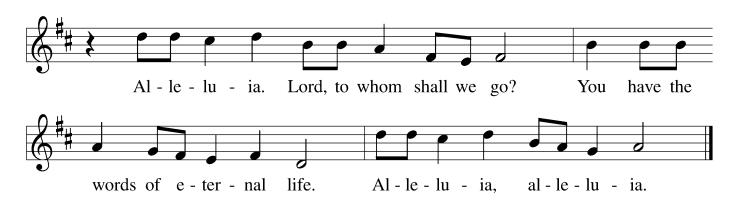
Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?



Text: John 6:68, adapt. Lutheran Book of Worship

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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GOSPEL READING Matthew 21: 23-32

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 28"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. 30 The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Pastor Phil Carl

THE PRAYGROUND

Children are invited to The Prayground for Bible lessons, activities, crafts and prayers.

Sermon Pastor Phil Carl

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY God's Work. Our Hands

(see words on next page, to the tune of "Earth and All Stars!")

God's Work, Our Hands (Tune: Earth and All Stars)

God's work, our hands: working together,
building a future, repairing the world,
raising up homes, planting new gardens,
feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God's work, our feet: trav'ling together,
following Jesus to places unknown,
walking as friends, marching for freedom,
running the race with God's future the goal.
Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way,

sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God's work, our voice: singing together,
praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
praying for peace, shouting for justice,
claiming God's love for the lost and the least.

Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name, sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God is at work in and around us:
seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored,
gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold

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APOSTLES' CREED

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reader: Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors. We put our trust in you as we pray for the church. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and teachers the gifts of wisdom and discernment. Be with them in bold truth and faithful witness. Merciful God.

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: Lead us in your truth as we pray for creation. Empower us to look to the interests of others as we make choices that impact the environment. Summon us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air. Merciful God,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: Lead us in justice as we pray for those in government, the military, and other positions of authority. Give them humble and willing hearts, looking to the needs of others. We pray also for our enemies. Merciful God,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader; Trusting your goodness, we pray for all caregivers and people who are sick or suffering in any way, especially Wayne Dunkley, Mack Keister, Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock, Jane Wichmann. Give them encouragement and consolation in your presence. Merciful God,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: Teach us your paths as we pray for this congregation. Be at work in us and unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel. Merciful God,

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: We give thanks for all the saints who died secure in the knowledge of salvation. Keep us fearless in our faith and certain of your resurrection. Merciful God.

People: receive our prayer.

Reader: We give thanks for our leaders. As we strive to call a new pastor for this congregation, send your Spirit to guide our decisions and those of all others in that process, so the outcome reflects your will for our future. Merciful God,

People: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Reader: Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

GREETING & PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

We invite you to turn and share a sign of peace with your neighbors.

Please be seated.

MEAL

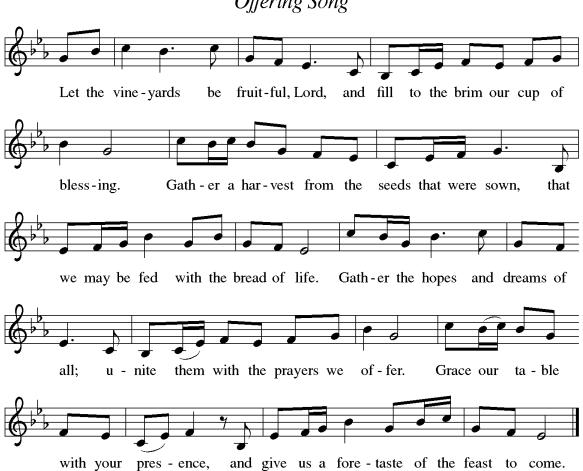
OFFERTORY

"Trumpet Voluntary" By John Travers (1703 - 1758)

Mark A. Fletcher

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Offering Song



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

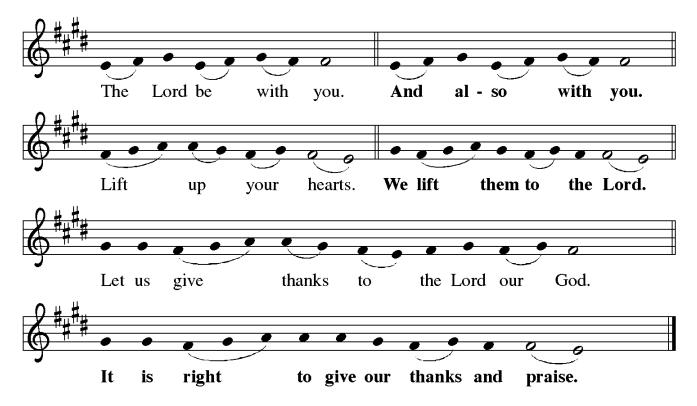
Pastor: Generous God,

People: God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good

things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

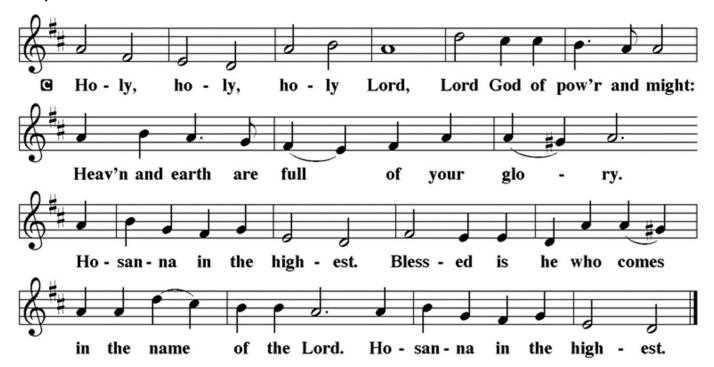


Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Ar

and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on the earth and the hosts

of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor:

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray as the Lord has taught us:

People: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom

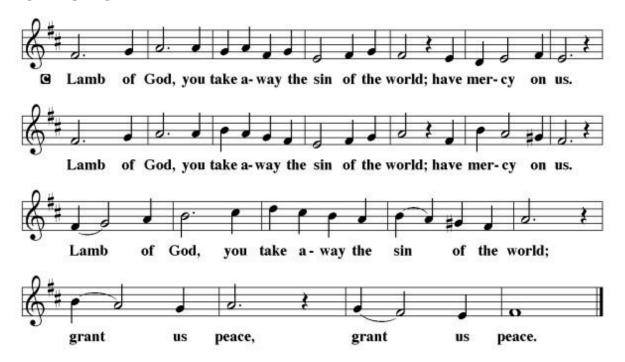
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Come to the banquet, for now all is ready.

Please be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION



COMMUNION MUSIC

"Jesus Loves Me'" Arr. by Mark A. Fletcher

Mark A. Fletcher, organ Curtis Adams, flute

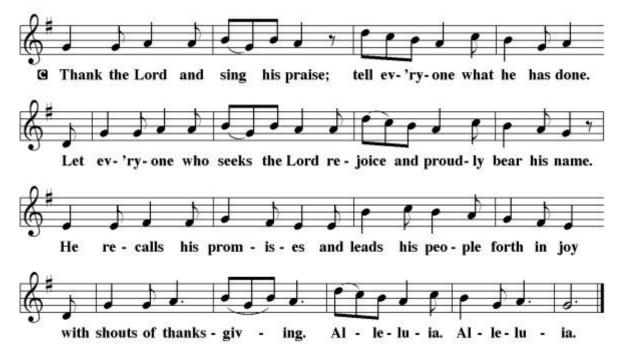
Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen you

unto life eternal.

People: Amen.



INSTALLATION

Mark A. Fletcher, Minister of Music

SENDING

BLESSING

Pastor: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

People: Amen.

SENDING SONG "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" ELW 836

(see music on next page)

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "The Rejoicing" Mark A. Fletcher

By G.F. Handel

Renewed and strengthened by our worship together, go forth in peace to serve to the world.

Following today's Service, we invite you to find fellowship downstairs in the fellowship hall.

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.



PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 25:1-9

(not read during today's service)

¹To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me. Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous. Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long. Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting. Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord. You are gracious and upright, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners in your way. You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.