

#### Dear Beloved in Christ,

Christian catechesis—that is, God's renewing in lifelong spiritual formation—begins in the womb (Lk 1:44). The Word of God is spoken and heard unto the gift of faith and eternal life (Jn 5:25; Rom 10:17). It is spoken and heard not only through the public reading of Scripture and preaching, but also through hymnody. Hence, we withhold none of these from children. But I fear we have lost the great tradition of passing down hymnody to the next generation. Perhaps the church has acquiesced to a culture that marginalizes children as those who cannot achieve the "greatness" of adults. Yet Jesus says, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 18:3-4).

Years ago, I overheard a pastor say to a teenager, "'O Sacred Head, Now Wounded' is 1,000 years old... do you think they'll be singing Britney Spears 1,000 years from now?" Christian hymnody is timeless. It is timeless because it renews life as the Word of God, a confession of the faith sung to each other as much as it is sung to God. The Reformation took root in the people through hymnody as Jesus Christ and His atoning sacrifice were declared with one voice through song—beautiful music and even more beautiful words invited others to join the chorus in this mighty means of gospel power. Martin Luther would write, "next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. ...After all, the gift of language combined with the gift of song was only given to man to let him know that he should praise God with both word and music, namely, by proclaiming through music and by providing sweet melodies with words" (AE 53:323)— hymnody is good not only for the arts, but also for faith!

With this in mind, we provide a humble hymnal for our children. Maybe this work will lead to the blessing of a children's choir. In any case, the hope is that our little ones will know our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through hymnody and sing these hymns instead of Britney Spears (or any other passing pop icon) as they engage in life at home, at school, and elsewhere.

This hymnal begins where our children received God, His name, and His forgiveness: in baptism. The sacraments are followed by songs of our Redeemer and His justification, then of the church year, and finally of Christian life. Hymns were selected for their theology and musicality, with an eye toward teaching melodies found in other great hymns. For example, after learning "All Who Believe and Are Baptized" (1), one might introduce "Salvation unto Us Has Come"; or, after learning "He Is Arisen! Glorious Word" (12), one might introduce the queen of Lutheran chorales, "O Morning Star How Fair and Bright" (an index of shared tunes is provided for this purpose). I end with the heartfelt goal of this endeavor: May faith ring out through the voices of children in the truth of Jesus Christ (Mt 21:14-16)!

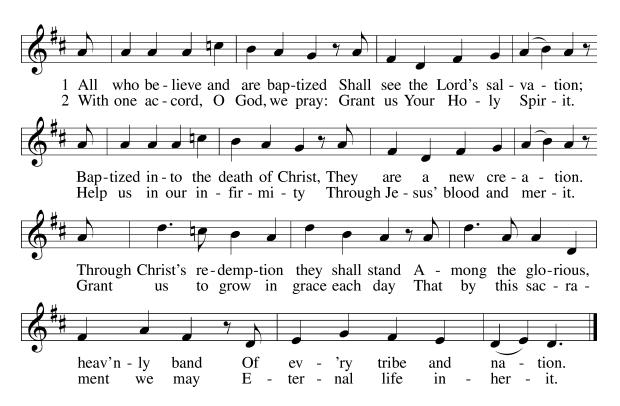
In His name, *Pastor Greg* 17 May 2018

## THE HYMNS

| 1  | All Who Believe and Are Baptized      |
|----|---------------------------------------|
| 2  | Jesus Sinners Doth Receive            |
| 3  | Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior      |
|    | Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious  |
|    | God Loved the World So That He Gave   |
|    | Abide, O Dearest Jesus                |
|    | Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice |
|    | Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee |
|    | Comfort, Comfort Ye My People         |
|    | All My Heart Again Rejoices           |
|    | On My Heart Imprint Your Image        |
|    |                                       |
|    | At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing      |
|    | We All Believe in One True God        |
|    | Father Most Holy                      |
| 16 | Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word  |
|    | O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace         |
|    | The Lord, My God, Be Praised          |
|    | Praise to You and Adoration           |
| 20 | All Ye Who on This Earth Do Dwell     |
|    | I Pray Thee, Dear Lord Jesus          |
|    | Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy      |
|    | The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want |
|    | Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing   |
|    |                                       |

## All Who Believe and Are Baptized LSB 601 / TLH 301

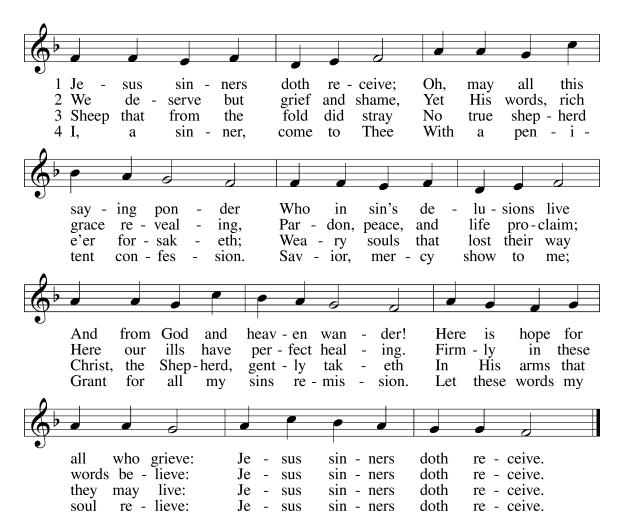
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## Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

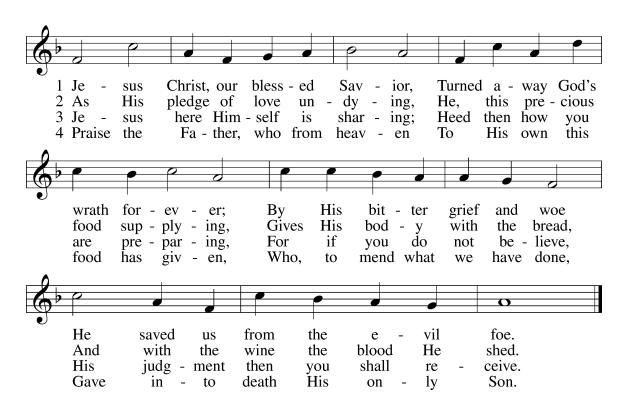
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Erdmann Neumeister

MEINEN JESUM LASS' ICH NICHT (DARMSTADT)

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior LSB 627 / TLH 311

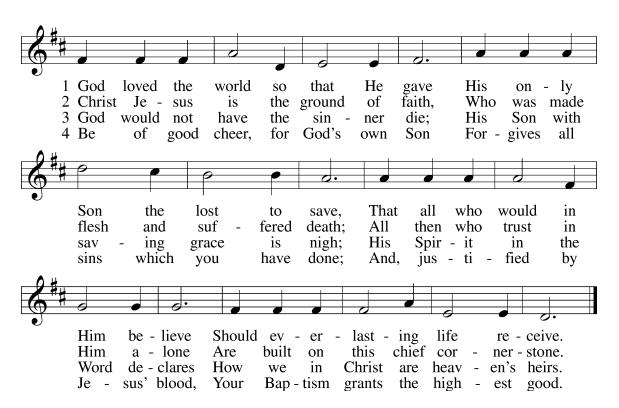


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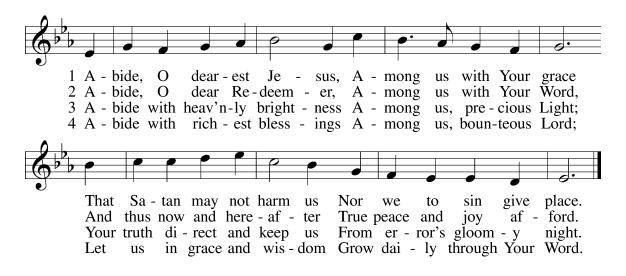


Thomas Kingo

## God Loved the World So That He Gave LSB 571 / TLH 245



# Abide, O Dearest Jesus LSB 919 / TLH 53



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joice, With ex - ul - ta - tion 2 Fast bound in Sa-tan's chains I Death brood-ed lay; dark - lv own good works all came to naught, No 3 My grace or mer - it 4 But God had seen my wretch-ed Be - fore the world's foun state spring-ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho lv me. Sin was my tor - ment night and o'er day; In sin my gain - ing; Free will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, Dead all to da - tion, And mind-ful of His mer - cies great, He planned for rap - ture sing - ing, Pro-claim the won-ders God has How done. But dai - ly deep - er moth-er bore me. still I fell: My good re - main - ing. My fears in-creased till sheer de - spair Left He turned to mv sal-vation. me а fa - ther's heart: He His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran-som cost Him! firm - ly sin pos - sessed me. life be - came a liv - ing hell, So pangs of hell I on - ly death to be my share; The suf - fered. did not choose the eas - y part But gave His dear-est trea - sure.

NUN FREUT EUCH

8



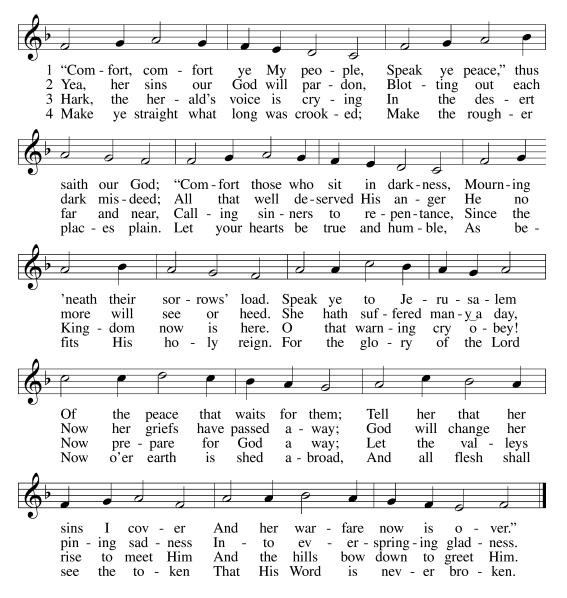
Josiah Conder

O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE

#### ADVENT

## Comfort, Comfort Ye My People LSB 347 / TLH 61

9



Johann Olearius

FREU DICH SEHR (19)

1()

### All My Heart Again Rejoices LSB 360 / TLH 77

a - gain re - joic - es As 1 All my heart Ι hear Far and near 2 Hear! The Con - quer - or has spo - ken: "Now the foe, Sin and woe. 3 Should we fear our God's dis-plea - sure, Who, to save, Free - ly gave the Lamb, our sin once tak - ing To the cross, Suf-f'ring loss, 4 See Sweet-est an - gel voic - es. "Christ is born!" their choirs are sing - ing Death and hell are bro - ken!" God is man, man de - liv - er, to His most pre-cious trea - sure? To re-deem us He has giv - en Full a - tone-ment mak - ing. For our life His own He ten - ders. Ev - 'ry-where Now Till with the air joy is ring - ing. With And the Son Now is one our blood for - ev - er. His own Son From the throne Of His might in heav - en. Fit And His grace All our race for glo - rv ren - ders.

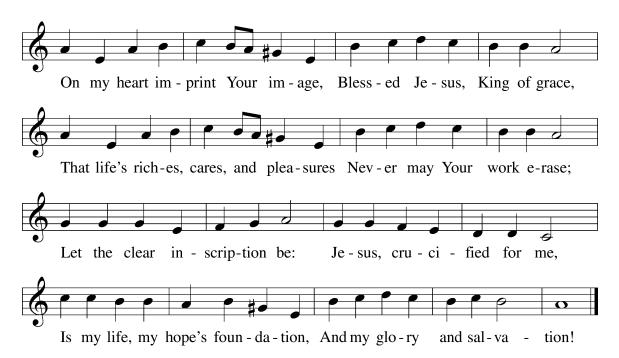
Paul Gerhardt

FRÖHLICH SOLL MEIN HERZE SPRINGEN

#### LENT

On My Heart Imprint Your Image LSB 422 / TLH 179

## 11



Thomas Kingo

DER AM KREUZ

### He Is Arisen! Glorious Word LSB 488 / TLH 189

EASTER

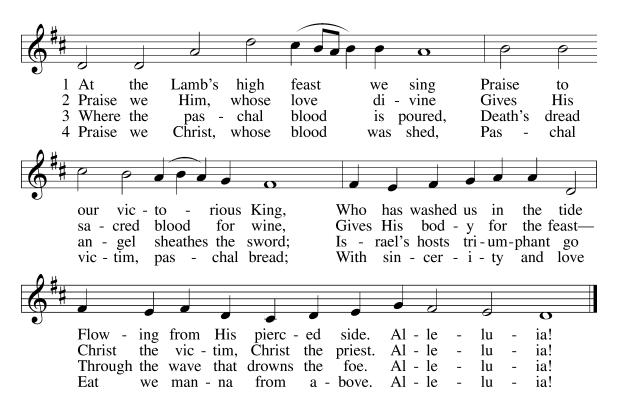
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#### Birgitte Boye

WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET

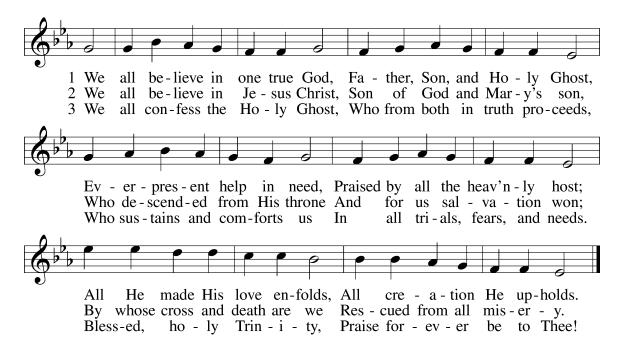
## At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing LSB 633 / TLHS 733



TRINITY

# We All Believe in One True God LSB 953 / TLH 252

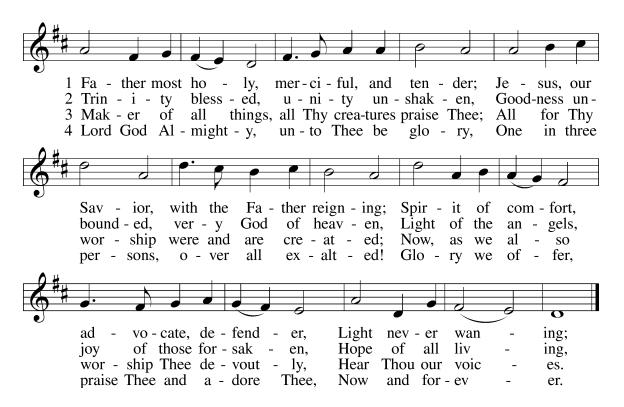
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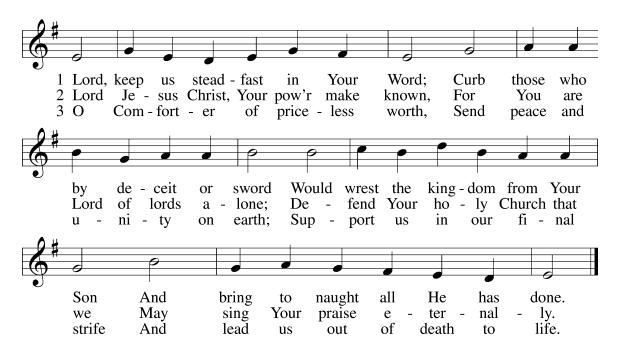


Tobias Clausnitzer

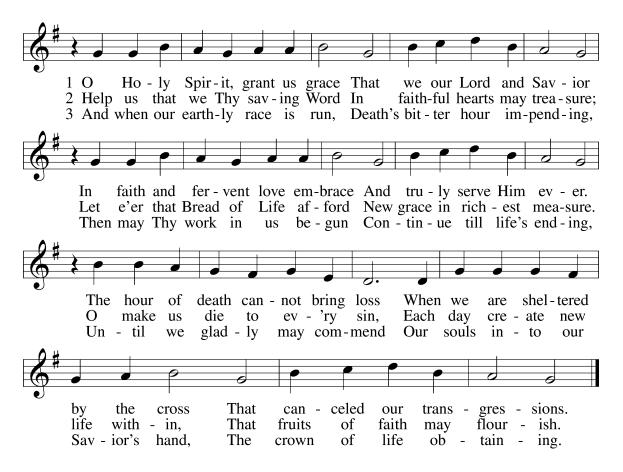
#### TRINITY

## Father Most Holy LSB 504 / TLH 240





### O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace LSB 693 / TLH 293





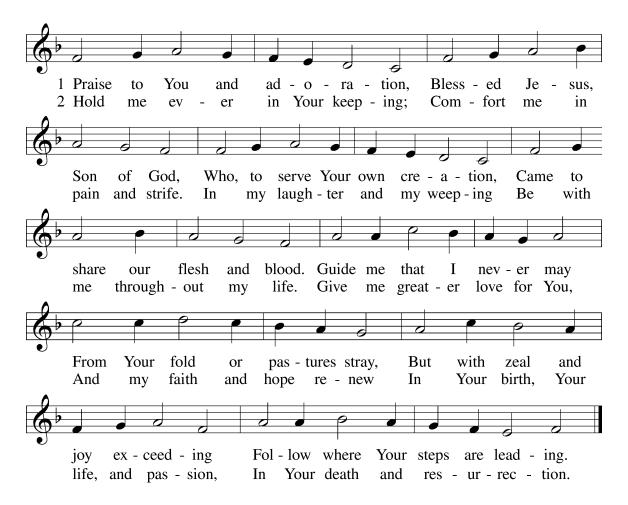
Johann Olearius

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

#### PRAISE

### Praise to You and Adoration LSB 692 / TLH 401

## 19

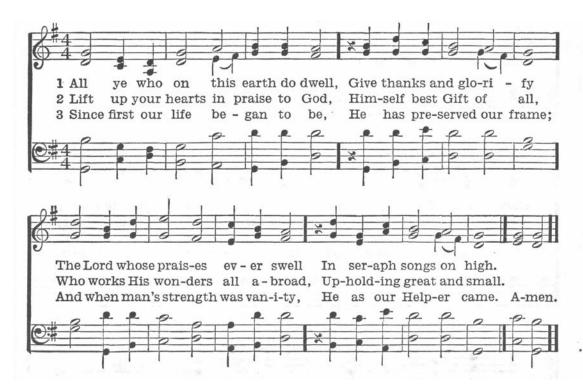


Thomas Kingo

FREU DICH SEHR (9)

# All Ye Who on This Earth Do Dwell TLH 581

#### PRAISE



Paul Gerhardt

NUN DANKET ALL'

#### PRAYER

## I Pray Thee, Dear Lord Jesus TLH 655

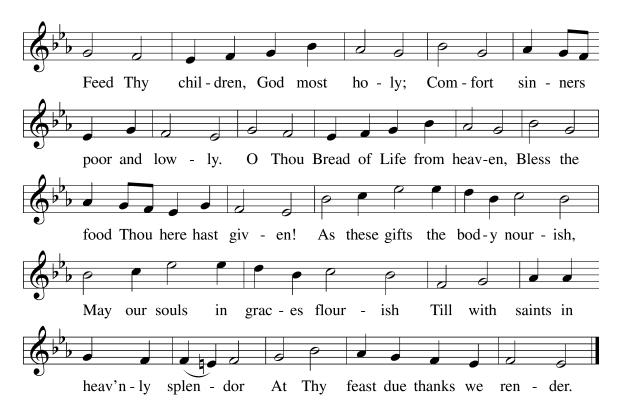
21



Thomas Kingo

JEG VIL MIG HERREN LOVE

22



Johann Heermann

SCHMÜCKE DICH

## The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want LSB 710 / TLH 436

| 6#         |                              | • 0   |                    |                                | •                                 |  |                                     |   | •                                |
|------------|------------------------------|---|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 3          | My sou<br>Yea, thou<br>My ta | ll He dot<br>gh I wal<br>- ble Tho                          | k in               | death's<br>fur -               | not<br>a -<br>dark<br>nish<br>my  | want;<br>gain<br>vale,<br>- ed<br>life | He<br>And<br>Yet<br>In<br>Shall     | makes<br>me<br>will<br>pres -<br>sure   | me<br>to<br>I<br>ence<br>- ly    |
| <b>}</b> # | walk do<br>fear n<br>of n    | to lie<br>to make<br>to ill;<br>ny foes;<br>tow me;         |                    | In<br>With<br>For<br>My<br>And | pas<br>- in<br>Thou<br>head<br>in | - ture<br>the<br>art<br>Tho<br>God     | pa<br>w<br>u d                      | een;<br>aths<br>vith<br>ost<br>ouse     | He<br>of<br>me,<br>with<br>for - |
| <b>}</b>   | and T<br>oil                 | eth me<br>ous - ness,<br>'hy rod<br>a - noint,<br>er - more | E'en<br>And<br>And | for H<br>staff m               | ne co<br>up o                     | vn nai<br>om - fe<br>- v               | ers l<br>me's s<br>ort s<br>ver - f | by.<br>sake.<br>still.<br>flows.<br>be. | 0                                |

# Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing LSB 737 / TLH 535

24

|   |   |   |   | _   | ¥ Ø  |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|
|   |   |   |   |   |  |
| 1 Re - joice,<br>2 He is<br>3 Why spend<br>4 Did not<br>5 He on | my hear<br>your trea<br>the day<br>His love<br>- ly wil             | a - sure,<br>/ in<br>e and                                | glad<br>He<br>blank<br>truth<br>pa - 1        | and sing,<br>your joy,<br>de - spair,<br>and pow'r<br>tience chide, | A<br>Your<br>In<br>Guard<br>His            |
| cheer - ful<br>life and<br>rest - less<br>ev - 'ry<br>rod falls | trust main<br>light and<br>thought the<br>child - hooo<br>gent - ly | night?  | For Go<br>Your co<br>On yo<br>And di<br>And a | un - sel - on<br>ur Cre - a<br>d He no                              | when<br>- tor<br>t in                      |
| ev - 'ry<br>doubts an<br>cast your<br>threat - 'ning<br>casts a | - noy,<br>care;<br>hour   | Your por<br>Your shield<br>He makes<br>Turn dread<br>In o | and g<br>your d<br>- ed                       | reat re -<br>bur - dens<br>ills a -                                 | main.<br>ward.<br>light.<br>way?<br>drown. |

ICH SINGE DIR

## Index of Shared Tunes

(Preference given to Lutheran Service Book)

| 1  | All Who Believe and Are BaptizedSalvation unto Us Has Come (LSB 555)                 |
|----|--|
| 2  | Jesus Sinners Doth Receive Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come (LSB 350)                |
| 4  | Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens (LSB 589)   |
|    | Like the Golden Sun Ascending (TLH 207)  |
|    | Gracious God, Again Is Ended (TLH 560)   |
| 5  | God Loved the World So That He GaveJesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness (LSB 563)      |
| 6  | Abide, O Dearest Jesus   |
| 7  | Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice On Christ's Ascension I Now Build (LSB 492)    |
|    | If Your Beloved Son, O God (LSB 568)   |
|    | All Christians Who Have Been Baptized (LSB 596)                                      |
| 8  | Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose TheeJesus, Refuge of the Weary (LSB 423)            |
| 11 | On My Heart Imprint Your ImageJesus, Grant That Balm and Healing (LSB 421)           |
| 12 | He Is Arisen! Glorious Word Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn (LSB 391)               |
|    | O Morning Star How Fair and Bright (LSB 395)   |
|    | O Holy Spirit, Enter In (LSB 913)  |
|    | How Lovely Shines the Morning Star (TLH 546)   |
| 15 | Father Most HolyFather, We Praise Thee (LSB 875)                                     |
| 16 | Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word Lord God, to Thee We Give All Praise (LSB 522)  |
|    | The Law of God Is Good and Wise (LSB 579)  |
|    | Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear (LSB 908)  |
|    | Thine Honor Save, O Christ, Our Lord (TLH 265)                                       |
| 17 | O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace The Day Is Surely Drawing Near (LSB 508)               |
| 18 | The Lord, My God, Be PraisedNow Thank We All Our God (LSB 895)                       |
| 22 | Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness (LSB 636)        |
| 23 | Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing O Christ, Our Hope, Our Hearts' Desire (LSB 553) |
|    | O Lord, I Sing with Lips and Heart (TLH 569)   |