

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025



Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church

1742 Dinkey Road
Lehigh, PA 18235
610-377-4242

www.dmlcashfield.com

Zoom ID: 586 370 219



Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

*To all who are lonely and need fellowship; to all who are discouraged and need good news; to all who mourn and need comfort; to all who are tempted and need help; to all who are sinners and need forgiveness; to all who are complacent and need disturbing; to all who thirst for the water of life; to all who love Christ and would follow Christ, Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church opens its arms and bids you **welcome!***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.**

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

**Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In ✝ Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

GATHERING SONG *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (ELW 807)

GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.

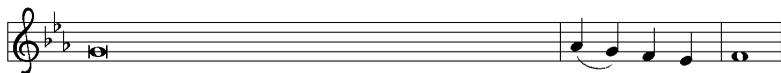
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



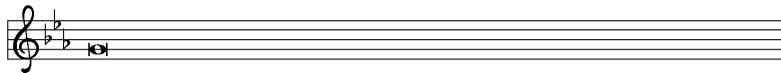
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Joshua.

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

⁹ The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain.

¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 32

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD. (*Ps. 32:11*)

¹ Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,
and whose sin is | put away!

² **Happy are they to whom the LORD im- | putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there | is no guile! R**

³ While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,
because of my groaning | all day long.

⁴ **For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶ **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them. R**

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸ **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.**

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

¹⁰ **Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart. **R**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

The reading may be announced:

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

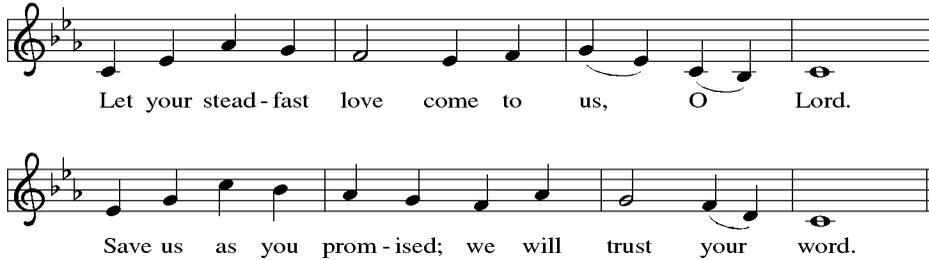
The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Restore in Us, O God* (ELW 328)

APOSTLES CREED

**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

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret.

Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all.

God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died. We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found.

God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

MUSICAL SELECTION OFFERING

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

The musical notation is written on a single treble clef staff in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of four lines of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final double bar line at the end of the fourth line.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider,
you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *Faith of Our Fathers* (ELW 812)

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended, let the service begin.
Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
Thanks be to God.

From *Sundays & Seasons*, © 2023 Augsburg Fortress.

DINKEY MEMORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 30, 2025

The Altar Flowers are not sponsored today.

The Bulletins are sponsored today by Joan & Steve Vayda in memory of their son Stephen.

Flower and bulletin charts for **2025** are on the bulletin board above the stairs. You may either sign up on the charts or by calling the office at 610-377-4242. It is appreciated if you pay for your sponsorship by the end of the month that you have sponsored. **All weeks are open for the Memorial Bowl. It is very important for flower sponsors to**

return the cans and plastic gold bowls that they take the flowers home in. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Office Hours:

Monday, Thursday, Friday 9:00- 2:00
(610)377-4242

The Week Ahead:

Today	9:00AM	4 th Sunday in Lent Worship
	10:15AM	Sunday School
Wednesday	9:00AM	Morning Prayer
	7:00PM	Lenten Worship (Ben Salem UCC)
Thursday	9:30AM	Bible Study
	6:30PM	Choir
Sunday	9:00AM	5th Sunday in Lent Worship
	10:15AM	Sunday School

HAPPY BIRTHDAY March 30 to April 5

03/31 Corey German
04/01 Chase Oswald
04/01 Adrianna Perez
04/02 Scott Bierman
04/02 Lori Bowman

04/02 Dan Schleicher
04/02 Talulah Seltzer
04/03 Madalin Smale
04/05 Candy Everett

Giant Gift Cards: If you would like to purchase any Giant Gift Cards please see Kathy Steigerwalt. We receive 5% from each gift card sold.

Anniversary Celebration: In 2026 Dinkey Memorial will be celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the founding of the congregation in 1851. A team is being formed to coordinate the celebration and we are looking for people interested in sharing the history of the congregation and having some fun while doing so. If you are interested, please see Pastor Tony.

Altar Guild: Did you ever wonder who takes care of changing the altar paraments, setting up communion, and just organizing the worship space? That would be our altar guild and they serve a very important role in our worship life. If you are interested in

finding out more information about the altar guild or would consider serving as a member, please join us for an information/organization meeting today, March 30 at 12:15PM in the sanctuary. Hope to see you then!

Fundraising: Dinkey is selling Rita's cards for 10% off your purchase, cost is \$5.00. Please see Karen Schleicher (610)390-1125. Dinkey is also selling Streak free cloths; \$5 each. Please contact Jan in the office if interested.

Cookbook: The fundraising team would like to have your favorite recipe to put together a Dinkey Memorial cookbook. Please give the recipe with your name on it to Karen Schleicher or drop off at the office by Sunday, May 11, 2025.

Vacation Bible School: The time is now for us to plan VBS for Summer 2025, however, we are in need of help. If you are able to help in any way with coordinating, teaching, assisting in the classroom, planning snacks or games, or teaching music, please speak with Pr. Tony. Let's make this VBS another wonderful experience for our children!

Stained Glass Windows: Help preserve our stained glass windows by making a donation today. Your support will help us complete the work necessary to repair and upgrade the windows and preserve them for the future. You can donate by marking "Stained Glass Windows" on your envelope and memo line of your check, or by scanning the QR code to download the Vanco Mobile app. Thank you for your support and commitment to this project.

Dinkey Memorial Stained Glass Window Repair Pledge of Support



Name(s)

Address

City State Zip

Phone Email

I/we make the following pledge: \$ _____

- Weekly Monthly One-time

Fundraising: Dinkey still has perogies for sale; \$9 for potato and cheese; \$10 for sauerkraut or apple. Please see Linda Bierman if interested.

Spring Bazaar: St John's Mahoning will be having their Spring Bazaar on Friday, April 11, 2025 from 5:00 – 7:30 PM and Saturday, April 12, 2025 from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

Spring Bazaar: Ben Salem UCC in Lehighton will be having their Spring Bazaar on Friday, April 4, 2025 from 5:00 -7:30 PM and Saturday, April 5, 2025 from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

Ham & Dandelion Dinner: Ben Salem U C C will be having a ham & dandelion dinner on Saturday, April 26, 2025 from 3 – 6 PM. Cost is \$15 for adults, \$7 for ages 5-10 and under 5 is free.

Donut Sale: St John's is selling donuts for pickup on May 7, 2025; order by April 20, 2025; order sheet in back of church.

MILITARY PERSONNEL FROM OR ASSOCIATED WITH DINKEY MEMORIAL

Noah K. Kunkel PSC41 Box 6927 APO AE 09464

1st Lt. Benjamin Cordova, 9300 Valencia St., Tucson, AZ 85747

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Tess Hinger

Debbie Meckel

Alice Scitney

Ruth Keck

Gordon Scherer

Debbie Strohl

SICK/HOSPITALIZED/SPECIAL NEEDS MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Alexis

Dick German

Mary Scanlon

Faith Beck

Joseph Gorman

Kenny Schleicher

Eli Bowland

Sonny Hack

Lukas Schleicher

Sherri Bowman

Stephen Hoffman

Todd Schleicher

Willard Doll

Doug Keller

Trisha Schleicher

Lauren Dugan

Joe Kluk

Patti Walck

Candy Everett

Deb Lilly

Sandy Walter

Ann German

Family of Dan Oswald

Betty Weber

We are in need of volunteers as greeters/ushers, lectors, communion assistants and altar guild. Please let the office know if you are willing to volunteer.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<u>Ministers:</u>	The Congregation
<u>Pastor:</u>	Reverend Anthony Pagotto
<u>Music Director:</u>	Bridgette Gorman
<u>Greeters:</u>	Everett
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Mason Spitzer
<u>Lector:</u>	Elijah Pagotto

Worship Participants for April 6, 2025:

<u>Greeters:</u>	Frey
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Derek Spitzer Jordyn Albert
<u>Lector</u>	Erica Pagotto
<u>Communion Assistants:</u>	Karen Wetzel Rich DeLuca

EASTER LILY ORDERS

Name: _____

In honor/memory of: _____

Easter Lily's are \$ 9.50. Orders and money can be placed in the offering plate or given to the office by April 10, 2024. Please fill out a form for each plant you would like. Plants can be picked up after service on Easter.



2025 Lent and Easter Schedule



Midweek Lenten Worship at 7:00PM on the following dates:

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at

Ben Salem UCC, 1965 Church Hill Road, Lehigh, PA 18235

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at

Dinkey Memorial Lutheran Church, 1825 Dinkey Road,
Lehigh

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025

7:00PM at St. Peter's Church, Tamaqua

Good Friday, April 18, 2025

7:00PM at Ben Salem UCC, Lehigh



Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

6:30AM Sunrise worship in Dinkey

Memorial Cemetery

7:00AM Breakfast at Dinkey Memorial LC

9:00AM Worship at Dinkey Memorial LC

10:15AM Easter Egg Hunt in Dinkey

Memorial Cemetery

10:45AM Worship at St. John's LC,

Mahoning



Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



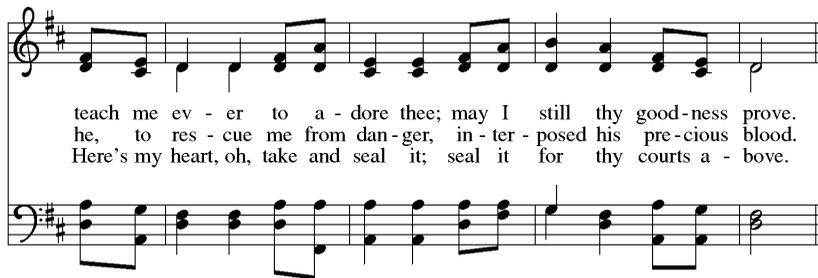
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith - er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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Restore in Us, O God



- 1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
- 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
- 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
- 4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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Faith of Our Fathers

1 Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still in spite of dun - geon,
 2 The mar - tyrs, chained in pris - ons dark, were still in heart and
 3 Faith of our fa - thers! We will love both friend and foe in

fire, and sword. Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy
 con - science free; and blest would be their chil - dren's fate
 all our strife; pro - claim thee too, as love knows how,

Refrain

when - e'er we hear that glo - rious word.
 if they, like them, should die for thee. Faith of our fa - thers,
 by sav - ing word and faith - ful life.

ho - ly faith, we will be true to you till death.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.
 Music: ST. CATHERINE, Henri F. Hemy, 1818–1888; James G. Walton, 1821–1905, refrain

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