

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 8, 2026



Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church

1742 Dinkey Road

Lehighton, 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,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.

We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.

We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.

Turn us to seek your face.

Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,

and walk humbly with you, our God.

Amen.

The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:

Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in [†] Jesus' name.

May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.

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.

GATHERING SONG *O Master, Let Me Walk with You* (ELW 818)

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Isaiah.

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

¹ Shout out; do not hold back!

 Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
 to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me

 and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness

 and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgments;

 they want God on their side.

³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see?

 Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day
 and oppress all your workers.

⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight

 and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today

 will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,

 a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush

 and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,

 a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:

 to loose the bonds of injustice,

 to undo the straps of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,

 and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry

and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them

and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,

and your healing shall spring up quickly;

your vindicator shall go before you;

the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

^{9a} Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;

you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry

and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,

then your light shall rise in the darkness

and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually

and satisfy your needs in parched places

and make your bones strong,

and you shall be like a watered garden,

like a spring of water

whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;

you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;

you shall be called the repairer of the breach,

the restorer of streets to live in.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 112:1-10

Light shines in the darkness for the upright. (*Ps. 112:4*)

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who ¹ fear the LORD
and have great delight in ¹ God's commandments!

² **Their descendants will be mighty ¹ in the land;**
the generation of the upright ¹ will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches will be ¹ in their house,

and their righteousness will¹ last forever.

**4 Light shines in the darkness¹ for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full¹ of compassion. R**

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**6 For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting¹ in the LORD.

**8 Their heart is established and¹ will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon¹ their enemies.**

9 They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands¹ fast forever;
they will hold up their¹ head with honor.

**10 The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and¹ pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish. R**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

The reading may be announced:

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

⁹ But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.

¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

¹⁶ "For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

[Jesus said:] ¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *O Jesus, I Have Promised* (ELW 810)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

Your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness bring hope to a troubled world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your marvelous creation cries out to you. Restore polluted air, soil, and water sources to wholeness. Guard honeybees, elephants, great whales and songbirds from harm, and renew the face of the earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your people in every nation suffer injustice, poverty, and the threat of violence. Guide those in authority to govern with compassion, and bring peace to war zones. We pray for our enemies. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Your blessings are poured out for all in need. Help and heal any who experience trauma, discrimination, disease, hunger, abuse, or persecution. Comfort those who are sick or grieving (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our ordained leaders, staff, lay leaders, and volunteers. Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your saints rejoice at your heavenly banquet. We give thanks for their lives of faith, trusting that we also will be embraced by your eternal love. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

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.**

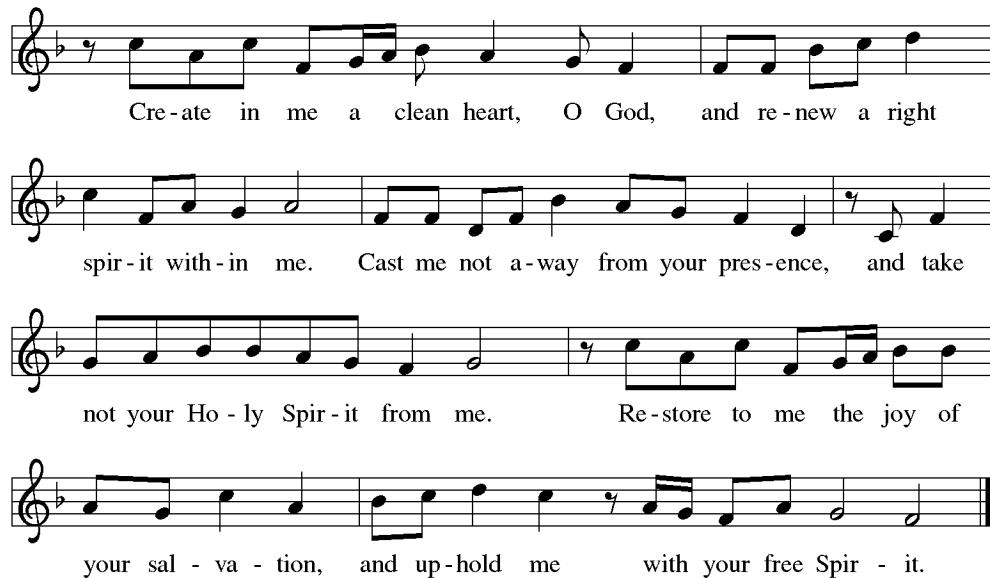
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;**

**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.**

OFFERING

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*



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.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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OFFERING PRAYER

God of majesty,
no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet you continue to reveal the wideness of your mercy.
Use what we have gathered
to further your kingdom,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth
and tuned your heart for praise
☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* (ELW 886)

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Let the service begin.

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

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DINKEY MEMORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
February 8, 2026

The Altar Flowers are sponsored today by Wanda Crostley in memory of Vincent Crostley.

The Bulletins are sponsored today by Irene Wenner in honor of Edgar & Gini Steigerwalt.

Flower and bulletin charts for **2026** 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 9:00AM to 2:00PM;
(610)377-4242

The Week Ahead:

Today	9:00AM	5th Sunday after Epiphany Worship
	9:45AM	Congregational Meeting
	10:15AM	Sunday School
Wednesday	9:00AM	Morning Prayer
Thursday	9:30AM	Bible Study
Sunday	9:00AM	Transfiguration of our Lord Worship
	10:15AM	Sunday School

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! February 8 to February 14

02/08 Austin Miller
02/09 Clara Schleicher
02/10 Timothy Eckhart
02/10 Tina Rothermel
02/11 Gregory German
02/11 Jackson McCandless

02/11 Edgar Steigerwalt
02/12 Dawson Bowman
02/12 Georgine Shupp
02/12 George Szacska
02/14 Thomas Beck

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

Fundraising: Dinkey is selling Streak free cloths; \$5 each. Please contact Jan in the office if interested.

St John's: St John's is having a candy sale; Order by March 15, 2026; pick up will be March 27, 2026 and March 28, 2026. Make checks payable to St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Order form in the back of church.

Lehighton Cold Weather Station: The LCWS is an important ministry for the homeless in the Lehighton area. When the temperature drops below 25 degrees overnight, the station is open to anyone in need to have a warm place to sleep overnight. Volunteers and donations are always needed.

Congregational Meeting: We will be having our Congregational Meeting today after the service to review the reports of 2025. Please plan to attend.

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Darwin Berger
Arlene Bisbing
Sheila Flickinger
Tess Hinger

Linda Markell
Debbie Meckel
Gordon Scherer
Alice Scitney
Debra Strohl

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
Brendan Schleicher 11611 Dyer Street, Apt 1026 El Paso, Texas 79934
Private Seth Koch Sierra Vista, AZ

SICK/HOSPITALIZED/SPECIAL NEEDS MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Faith Beck
Family of Holly
Bierman
Sherri Bowman
Robert Coccio
Rick D
Lauren Dugan
Candy Everett
Louise Everett

Ann German
Dick German
Joseph Gorman
Stephen Hoffman
Barbara Niehoff
Janco
Doug Keller
Sandy Keller
Joe Kluk

Jim Koch
Deb Lilly
Emily Persinger
Kenny Schleicher
Tanner Schleicher
Tom Scott
Georgine Shupp
Carol Steigerwalt
Kathy Steigerwalt
Patti Walck

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<u>Ministers:</u>	The Congregation
<u>Pastor:</u>	Reverend Anthony Pagotto
<u>Worship Assistant:</u>	Julia Schock
<u>Musician:</u>	Bella Moyer
<u>Greeters:</u>	Wetzel
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Larkin Klotz
<u>Lector:</u>	Nora Oswald

Worship Participants for February 15, 2026:

<u>Worship Assistant:</u>	Bryn Schleicher
<u>Greeters:</u>	Bierman
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Jaxson Markell
<u>Lector:</u>	Derek Spitzer
<u>Communion Assistants:</u>	Elijah Pagotto
	Joanne Koons
	Elijah Pagotto

2026 Lent and Easter Schedule

Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026

2:00PM at Dinkey Memorial Lutheran Church
1742 Dinkey Road, Lehighton, PA 18235
7:00PM at St. Peter's Church
184 St. Peter's Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252



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

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at
St. John's Lutheran Church, 826 Mahoning Drive West, Lehighton
Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at
Ben Salem UCC, 1965 Church Hill Road, Lehighton, PA 18235
Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at
Zion Stone Church, 45 Cemetery Road, New Ringgold, PA 17960
Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at
St. Peter's Church, 184 St. Peter's Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252
Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at
Dinkey Memorial Lutheran Church, 1825 Dinkey Road, Lehighton

Spring Bazaar at St. John's LC, Mahoning

Friday, March 27, 2026, 5:00 – 7:30PM
Saturday, March 28, 2026, 9:00AM – 2:00PM
Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday at 11:00AM



Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026

7:00PM at Ben Salem UCC

Good Friday, April 3, 2026

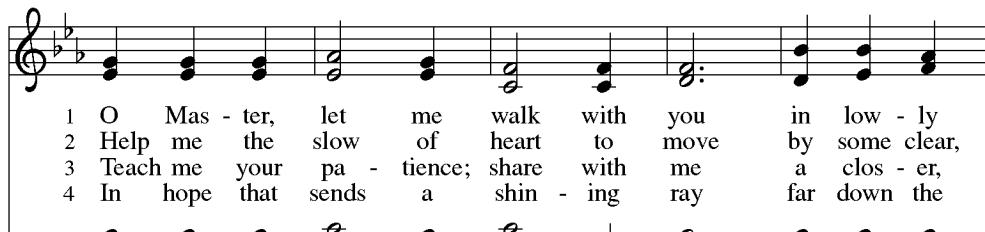
7:00PM at St. John's, Mahoning



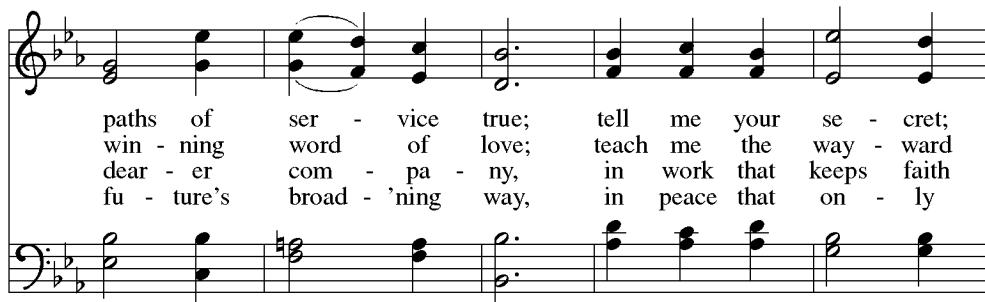
Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026

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
11:00AM Worship at St. John's LC, Mahoning

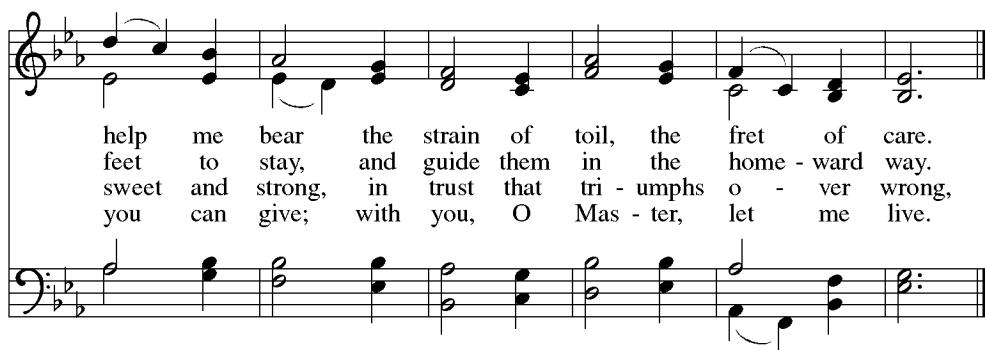
O Master, Let Me Walk with You



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.
Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

O Jesus, I Have Promised

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you

re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt-ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard-ian of my soul.
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.
 Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;



the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.



5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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