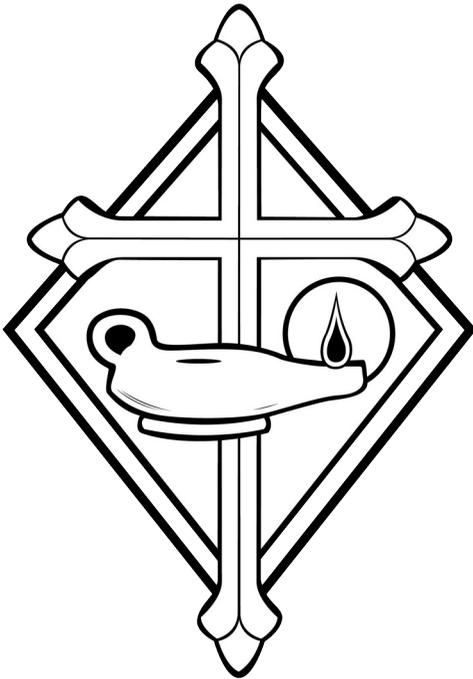


THE SUNDAY OF THE FULFILLMENT THE LAST SUNDAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR



Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Mrs. Kristen Lawson, Keyboardist

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF OUR BLESSED LORD! We are pleased you are here, gathered around the Gospel in Preaching and the Sacraments! **GUESTS** – If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles,

understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

CONFESSIONAL STATEMENT: Concordia Lutheran Church confesses all the Holy Scriptures, the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired word of God without any errors. We also hold, without any reservation, to the teachings of the Evangelical-Lutheran Confessions contained in the 1580 Book of Concord. We confess these teachings to be the correct interpretation of Scripture and a true explanation of the one, holy, catholic (universal) and apostolic faith.

PASTORAL CARE AND GUESTS AT THE LORD'S SUPPER: Scripture and our Confessions teach that the Lord's Supper "is the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine" (Small Catechism). We are concerned about the spiritual welfare of all who commune at the Lord's Table. *If you are a guest and desire to commune, please speak to the pastor before the service.* Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are members of sister churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and are not under church discipline in another congregation. In Christ, Pastor Lawson

NOVEMBER 20, 2022 † 9:00 A. M.

† In the Name of Jesus †

Prayer before Worship: Lord God, heavenly Father, make us watchful and heedful in awaiting the coming of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, that when He shall stand at the door and knock, He may find us not sleeping in carelessness and sin, but awake and rejoicing in His appearance; through the same, Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Divine Service: Rite Two
Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary: p. 60

The Office of Preparation
(Confession & Holy Absolution)

Hymn of Invocation: 543, *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* (Tune: 535)

**C: Rejoice, rejoice, believers, And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing, And darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; At midnight comes the cry.**

**The watchers on the mountain Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches With alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; The gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; The Bridegroom is at hand.**

**The saints, who here in patience Their cross and sufferings bore,
Shall live and reign forever When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him Their diadems of gold.**

**Our hope and expectation, O Jesus now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption that sets Your people free.**

*At the Invocation and Absolution all **may** make the sign of the †
in remembrance of their Baptism.*

The Invocation: p. 60-61

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The Confession of Sin (form I): pp. 60-62

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseech Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord;

C: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins.

C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: I ask each of you, in the presence of God who searches the heart: Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

C: I do.

P: Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in His name?

C: I do.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

May He comfort your heart by His holy Absolution,
and strengthen you by His Sacraments,
that your joy may be full.

Peace be with you!

C: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Introit

Tone 2



Antiphon (**Pastor**) For I know the thoughts that I think toward `you, says the Lord:/ Thoughts of peace and `not of evil,

Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will `listen to you:/ And I will bring you back from your captivity; I will gather you from all the nations and from `all the places.

Psalm (**All**) **Lord, You have been favorable `to Your land:/ You have brought back the captive`ty of Jacob.**

Show us `Your mercy, Lord:/ And grant us `Your salvation.

Surely His salvation is near to `those who fear Him:/ That glory may `dwell in our and.

Truth shall spring `out of the earth:/ And righteousness shall look `down from heaven.

Gloria Patri (**All**) **Glory be to the Father `and to the Son:/ and to `the Holy Ghost.**

As it was in the be`ginning, is now:/ and ever shall be, forever`more. Amen.

Antiphon (**All**) For I know the thoughts that I think toward `you, says the Lord:/ Thoughts of peace and `not of evil,

Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will `listen to you:/ And I will bring you back from your captivity; I will gather you from all the nations and from `all the places.

The Kyrie Eleison (form I): p. 63

C: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis: pp. 64-66

P: Glory be to God on high:

C: And on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You,

we glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your great glory.

O Lord God, heav`nly King,

God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

**You take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
You are seated at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy
upon us.**

**For You only are holy. You only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the
Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Salutation: p. 66

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

Salutation & Collects for the Day: p. 66

P: Absolve Your people, O Lord, from their offenses; that by Your bountiful goodness we may be delivered from the bonds of sin, which because of our weakness we have brought upon ourselves; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son we pray, that He may lead home His Bride, the Church, that we with all Your saints may enter into Your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Collect for the End of the Church Year

We thank You, Lord God, Heavenly Father, that in the past Church Year You have preserved Your Word among us in purity and by it effectively enlivened our souls; and we beseech You, that You would graciously forgive us all our neglect, unbelief, and disobedience with respect to Your Word, and continue to give us this precious treasure with Your blessing forevermore; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with Thee and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Old Testament: *Isaiah 65:17-25*

P: *In those days Isaiah prophesied:* [Thus says the Lord,] "Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; For behold, I create Jerusalem as a rejoicing, And her people a joy. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, And joy in My people; The voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, Nor the voice of crying." No more shall an infant from there live but a few

days, Nor an old man who has not fulfilled his days; For the child shall die one hundred years old, But the sinner being one hundred years old shall be accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; They shall not plant and another eat; For as the days of a tree, so shall be the days of My people, And My elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, Nor bring forth children for trouble; For they shall be the descendants of the blessed of the LORD, And their offspring with them. It shall come to pass That before they call, I will answer; And while they are still speaking, I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, The lion shall eat straw like the ox, And dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain," Says the LORD.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual (All)

Tone 2



The King's daughter shall be `brought to the King:/ The virgins, her companions who follow her, shall `be brought to You.

With gladness and rejoicing `they shall be brought:/ They shall enter `the King's palace.

Epistle: *1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

P: Concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others *do*, but let us watch and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and *as* a helmet the hope of salvation. For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse

P: Alleluia! Alleluia! I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God: Prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. Alleluia!

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Holy Gospel: *St. Matthew 25:1-13*

P: The Holy Gospel according to † St. Matthew, the 25th chapter:

C: Glory be to You, O Lord.

P: *At that time Jesus said:* Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight a cry was heard: “Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!” Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the wise answered, saying, “No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.” And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, “Lord, Lord, open to us!” But he answered and said, “Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.” Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.

P: This is the † Holy Gospel.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

*At the words “And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary
And was made man” all may bow out of reverence for Christ’s Incarnation.*

Nicene Creed: p. 69

**C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth
 and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 Begotten of His Father before all worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 Very God of Very God,
 Begotten, not made,**

**Being of one substance with the Father,
By Whom all things were made;
Who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven
*and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary
and was made man;*
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
And He shall come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified,
Who spoke by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
And I look for the Resurrection of the dead
and the Life † of the world to come. Amen.**

Chief Hymn: Chief Hymn: 544, *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying* (Tune: 518)

C: “Wake, awake, for night is flying,”
The watchmen on the heights are crying,
“Awake, Jerusalem, arise!”
It is midnight, we are weary,
With voices strong they call us clearly:
“Where are you now, O virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes, awake! Arise!
Your lamps now take! Alleluia!
With bridal care your selves prepare
To feast with Him your groom most fair.”

Zion hears the watchword sounding,

**With bridal joy her heart is bounding,
She wakes, and breaks the spell of sleep.
For her Lord comes forth in splendor,
All rich in grace, truth's strong Defender!
Her Star grows bright mid darkness deep.
Now come, O precious Crown,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son. Hail, Hosanna!
We enter all, the marriage hall,
To eat the Supper at Your call.**

**All the Church in Christ rejoices
With human and angelic voices,
With harp and cymbal's merry tone.
All twelve gates of that blest city
Gleam forth with pearls of heav'nly beauty;
We worship there around the throne.
No vision ever brought, No ear hath ever caught
Such great glory. Blessed, will we, sweet jubilee,
Sing "Gloria" eternally.**

Sermon

Pulpit Hymn: *584, Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy Lord*

**C: Grant peace, we pray, in mercy, Lord; Peace in our time, O send us!
For there is none on earth but You, None other to defend us.
You only, Lord, can fight for us. Amen! Have mercy, O Lord.**

The Intercessions: *each petition concludes:* Lord, in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Hymn of Preparation: *541, Jerusalem, Thou City Fair and High*

**C: Jerusalem, thou city fair and high, Would God I were in thee!
My longing heart fain, fain, to thee would fly; It will not stay with me.
Far over vale and mountain, Far over field and plain,
It hastes to seek its Fountain And leave this world of pain.**

**O happy day and yet far happier hour, When wilt thou come at last,
When fearless to my Father's love and pow'r, Whose promise standeth fast,**

**My soul I gladly render? For surely will His hand
Lead her with guidance tender To heav'n, her fatherland.**

**A moment's space, and gently, wondrously, Released from earthly ties,
Elijah's chariot bears her up to thee Through all these lower skies
To yonder shining regions, While down to meet her come
The blessed angel legions And bid her welcome home.**

**O Zion, hail! Brightcity, now unfold The gates of grace to me.
How many a time I longed for thee of old Ere yet I was set free
From yon dark life of sadness, Yon world of shadowy naught,
And God had giv'n the gladness, The heritage, I sought!**

**What glorious throng and what resplendent host Comes sweeping swiftly down?
The chosen ones on earth who wrought the most, The Church's brightest crown,
Our Lord hath sent to meet me, As in the far-off years
Their words oft came to greet me In yonder land of tears.**

**The patriarchs' and prophets' noble train, With all Christ's foll'wers true,
Who bore the cross and could the worst disdain That tyrants dared to do;
I see them shine forever, All-glorious as the sun,
Mid light that fadeth never, Their perfect freedom won.**

**And when within that lovely Paradise At last I safely dwell,
What songs of bliss shall from my lips arise, What joy my tongue shall tell;
While all the saints are singing Hosannas o'er and o'er,
Pure alleluias ringing Around me evermore!**

**Unnumbered choirs before the shining throne Their joyful anthems raise
Till heav'ns glad halls are echoing with the tone Of that great hymn of praise
And all its host rejoices, And all its blessed throng
Unite their myriad voices In one eternal song.**

The Liturgy of the Holy Communion

The Preface: p. 72

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

Proper Preface & Sanctus

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; through Whom the angels praise Your majesty, the dominions adore, the powers are in awe, and virtues of highest heaven and the blessed seraphim unite in blissful exaltation. With them, we pray You, grant that our voices too may blend, evermore praising You and saying:

**C: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
 Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He
 who come in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer: pp. 77-78

P: Our Father who art in heaven,
 Hallowed by 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;

C: For Thine is the kingdom and the pow'r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Institution: pp. 78-79

*When the Pastor turns and elevates the Host and Cup, the congregation **may** bow as an act of reverent worship toward the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.*

The Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord): p. 79

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

The Agnus Dei: pp. 79-80

**C: O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
grant us Your peace. Amen.**

The Distribution of the Holy Communion

*Prayers for “**Before Holy Communion**” and
for “**After Holy Communion**” are found on page 40 in ELH.*

Nunc Dimittis: pp. 81-82

**C: Lord, now You let Your servant depart in peace according to Your word.
For my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared before the face
of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Your people
Israel.**

**Glory be the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.**

The Collect of Thanksgiving

P: O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.

C: And His mercy endures forever.

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through these salutary gifts, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through them in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Salutation, Benedicamus & Benediction: p. 84

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

C: **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn: *406, Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart*

C: **Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee ne'er from me depart,
With tender mercies cheer me. Earth has no pleasure I would share,
Yea, heaven itself were void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me.
And should my heart for sorrow break, My trust in Thee no one could shake.
Thou art the Portion I have sought; Thy precious blood my soul has bought.
Lord Jesus Christ, My God and Lord, my God and Lord,
Forsake me not! I trust Thy Word.**

**Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich bounty gave My body, soul, and all I have
In this poor life of labor. Lord, grant that I in every place
May glorify Thy lavish grace And serve and help my neighbor.
Let no false doctrine me beguile And Satan not my soul defile.
Give strength and patience unto me To bear my cross and follow Thee.
Lord Jesus Christ, My God and Lord, my God and Lord,
In death Thy comfort still afford.**

**Lord, let at last Thine angels come, To Abram's bosom bear me home,
That I may die unfearing; And in its narrow chamber keep
My body safe in peaceful sleep Until Thy reappearing.
And then from death awaken me That these mine eyes with joy may see,
O Son of God, Thy glorious face, My Savior and my Fount of grace,
Lord Jesus Christ, My prayer attend, my prayer attend,
And I will praise Thee without end.**

Our Life Together

Bible Studies: No Sunday study this week or next at Bethany. A week from Thursday we will begin our survey of the book of Judges. *Everyone from both churches is encouraged to participate in one or both of the studies in person or via the google hangouts link.*



Thanksgiving Eve Vespers will be prayed at Bethany on Wednesday at 5:30pm. Before your festival plans, be sure to *praise God from whom all blessings flow* in and with your brothers and sister in Christ. *Everyone from both churches is invited and encouraged to attend!*

Advent Begins Next Sunday: *Advent Vespers* will be held at Concordia each Wednesday in Advent at 6:00pm in preparation for Christmas. The theme of this year's Advent Vespers sermon series is *The Hymns of Advent*. Each week we will focus on one famous hymns of the season.



Hope Clinic Giving Tree: Once again this year we are privileged to participate in the *Giving Tree* for *Hope Clinic*. Pastor will receive tags in a couple of weeks. It will be a mixture tags – some with a type of Christmas gift that may be purchased for the families that the clinic works with (\$25 limit), other tags for diapers and wipes, which the clinic is severely short on. Gifts will need to be turned in at the church by December 13, so please start thinking now about what you are able to donate. Thank you for your generosity!

Food Collection for the Needy: High inflation is creating more need in our area. Please donate what you are able! Non-perishable food items for local food banks may be deposited in the Narthex and will be hauled to the Fish Food Bank after the holidays.

Feasts, Commemorations, and Events Easter Week

Monday: Pastor at Concordia from 10:30am – 5:00pm.

Tuesday: Pastor at Bethany all day.

Wednesday: Commemoration of St. Clement of Rome, Bishop & Martyr
Pastor at Concordia from 10:30am – 4:00pm.
Thanksgiving Eve Vespers at Bethany, 5:30pm.

Thursday: THANKSGIVING DAY Churches closed

Friday: Pastor at Bethany

Saturday: Pastor's Day Off

Next Sunday: *The First Sunday in Advent*

Concordia Service of the Word, 9:00am

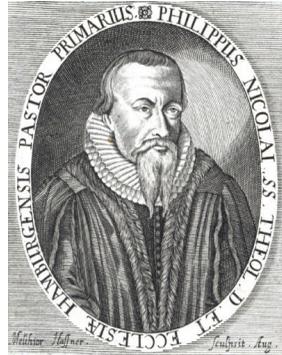
Bethany Holy Communion, 11:00am

Bethany Church Decorating, 12:30pm

Last Sunday of the Church Year – Our Savior considers human bodies so precious that He has already begun making a new earth for them to enjoy eternally (Isaiah 65:17-25). He has not designed humankind's bodily existence as disposable but as indispensable to our identity and abundant life. How shall this affect our approach to illness, disability, conception, and age?

Prayer: *King of creation, increase our respect and protection for the bodies of others with the esteem You bestow upon our own. Amen.*

Life Thoughts in the Church Year/One Year Lectionary – Lutherans For Life



Today's CHIEF HYMN *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying* (ELH 544) is known as the "King of Chorales" (*Chorale* is the German word for "hymn"). Both text and tune were written by Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608). The text was written in 1599, based on the Gospel for the Last Sunday in the Church Year (Matthew 25:1-13) and was originally described thus: "Of the Voice at Midnight and the Wise Virgins who Meet Their Heavenly Bridegroom." The tune has been described as "the greatest and most solemn melody of Evangelical Christendom." Interestingly, each

stanza, if the phrases are arranged underneath each other, takes the shape of a chalice. Thus Nicolai alludes to the Lord's Supper eaten by the faithful in the marriage hall. The specific occasion for writing was a horrible plague that claimed thousands with as many as thirty people being buried each day. It is said that Nicolai could see their committals taking place from the window of his study. Thus it serves as a comfort to the dying and their families, appropriate as both a wedding and a funeral hymn. An earlier translation used in the old *Lutheran Hymnal* missed the reference to the Lord's Supper in verse two (Das Abendmahl). ELH correctly restored the reference. The hymn leads its singers from the beckoning of the Word of God to the Supper to full participation with Christ and all the saints in heaven.