



# EXAUDI (“HEAR!”) THE SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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Mrs. Kristen Lawson, Organist

**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.

**CONFSSIONAL 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

MAY 12, 2024 † 9:00 A. M.

with us in doctrine, are active 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

† In the Name of Jesus †

Prayer before Worship: Lord God, heavenly Father, we give thanks to You, that through Your Holy Spirit You have appointed us to bear witness of your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ: We beseech You, inasmuch as the world cannot endure such testimony and persecutes us in every way, grant us courage and comfort, that we may not be offended because of the cross, but continue steadfastly in Your testimony, and be always found among those who know You and Your Son, until we obtain eternal salvation through the same, Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Office of Preparation (Confession & Holy Absolution)

Hymn of Invocation: 365, *O Sing with Exultation* (tune: 391)

**C: O sing with exultation, Sing to the Lord, rejoice!  
And in His congregation Shout with triumphant voice!  
For, lo, at God's right hand Is Christ in glory seated;  
With death and hell defeated, As victor He doth stand.**

**Since Christ, our Lord, is living, We nevermore shall die;  
To God the glory giving, We rise to Him on high;  
Though chastened we may be, And to our graves be taken,  
We unto life shall waken And live eternally.**

**Christ is the sure foundation The builders did reject,  
But He for our salvation Is precious and elect  
And made the cornerstone On which the Church is founded;  
This marvel now is sounded, The work of God alone.**

**To Thee, O Christ, be glory, Who camest in His name!  
Thy people sing the story Thy praises to proclaim;  
We thank Thee and adore, O Christ, our Lord and Savior;  
Thy grace and boundless favor Stand fast forevermore.**

*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 1



Antiphon (**Pastor**) Hear, O LORD, when I `cry with my voice:/ Al`leluia!

When You said, “Seek my face,” my heart said to You, “Your face, ` LORD, I will seek”:/ Do not hide Your face from me. Alleluia! `Alleluia!

Psalm (**All**) The LORD is my light and `my salvation:/ Whom `shall I *fear*?

The Lord is the `strength of my life:/ Of whom shall `I be afraid?

Teach me `Your way, O Lord:/ And lead me in a smooth path, because of `my enemies.

For false witnesses have ris`en against me:/ And such as breathe `out violence.

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**) Hear, O LORD, when I `cry with my voice:/ Al`leluia!

When You said, “Seek my face,” my heart said to You, “Your face, ` LORD, I will seek”:/

Do not hide Your face from me. Alleluia! `Alleluia!

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.**

The Collect for the Day

**P:** Almighty, everlasting God, grant us always to have a devout will towards You, and the desire to serve Your majesty with a pure heart; 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.**

Old Testament: *Ezekiel 36:22-28*

**P:** *In those days Ezekiel prophesied:* “Therefore say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “I do not do this for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My holy name’s sake, which you have profaned among the nations wherever you went. And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you profaned in their midst; and the nations shall know that I am the Lord,” says the Lord God, “when I am hallowed in you before their eyes. For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land. Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.”

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

First Alleluia Verse (*replaces the Gradual until Trinity Sunday*)

**P:** Alleluia! Alleluia! God reigns over the heathen: God sits on His holy throne. Alleluia!

**C:** **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Epistle: *1 Peter 4:7-11*

**P:** *Brethren:* the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.” Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**P:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

Second Alleluia Verse

**P:** Alleluia! Alleluia! I will not leave you comfortless: I go, and I will come again to you, and your heart shall rejoice Alleluia!

**C:** **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Sequence Hymn: *389, A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing, sts. 1, 5-7*

**C:** **A Hymn of glory let us sing:**

**New songs throughout the world shall ring: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Christ, by a road before untrod,**

**Ascendeth to the throne of God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Oh, grant us thitherward to tend**

**And with unwearied hearts ascend Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Unto Thy kingdom's throne, where Thou,**

**As is our faith, art seated now.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Be Thou our Joy and strong Defense**

**Who art our future Recompense: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**So shall the light that springs from Thee**

**Be ours through all eternity.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**PLEASE STAND**

**O risen Christ, ascended Lord,  
All praise to Thee let earth accord, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Who art, while endless ages run,  
With Father and with Spirit One.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Holy Gospel: *St. John 15:18 – 16:4*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to † St. John, the 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> chapters:

**C: Glory be to You, O Lord.**

*At that time Jesus said:* “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. But all these things they will do to you for My name’s sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. He who hates Me hates My Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father. But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, ‘They hated Me without a cause.’ When the Helper comes, Whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth Who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning. These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me. But these things I have told you, that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them. And these things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you.”

**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: 396, *If God Had Not Been on Our Side*

**C: If God had not been on our side And had not come to aid us,  
The foes with all their power and pride Would surely have dismayed us;  
For we, His flock, would have to fear The threat of men both far and near  
Who rise in might against us.**

**Their furious wrath, did God permit, Would surely have consumed us  
And as a deep and yawning pit With life and limb entombed us.  
Like men o'er whom dark waters roll Their wrath would have engulfed our soul  
And, like a flood, o'erwhelmed us.**

**Blest be the Lord, who foiled their threat That they could not devour us;  
Our souls, like birds, escaped their net, They could not overpower us.  
The snare is broken-we are free! Our help is ever, Lord, in Thee,  
Who madest earth and heaven.**

Sermon: Christ is in our midst. **He is and ever shall be.**

Offertory: pp. 70-71

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit.  
Amen.**

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

Hymn of Preparation: 320, *Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Bestowed*

**C: Lord Jesus Christ, You have bestowed For our weak souls' true feeding  
This Meal, Your body and Your blood, To it as guests us bidding.  
We, pressed with sin's load burdensome, Thus as Your chosen guests here come  
And seek Your help and counsel.**

**Though visibly from earth You've gone, Already now ascended,  
And here to us remain unseen Till this brief time is ended,  
Until the Judgment shall begin When we will stand before Your throne  
And joyfully behold You.**

**Still You are here, as says Your Word, With us, Your congregation,  
With now Your flesh and bones, O Lord, Not bound to one location.  
Your Word stands as a tower sure, None can o'er-throw its truth secure,  
Be he most shrewd and subtle.**

**“This is My body,” thus You say, “Eat orally, so take Me;  
All drink My blood; by you I stay, And you shall not forsake Me.”  
Thus You have spoken, so 'tis true; Naught is impossible with You,  
For You, Lord, are almighty.**

**And though my mind here does not see How in so many places  
Your body at one time can be Yet faith Your Word embraces.  
I leave to You how this can be, Your Word, O Lord, suffices me;  
Faith stands upon it solely.**

**Lord, I believe, dear Lord, I trust; Help for faith's weakness give me!  
See, I but ashes am and dust; Ne'er of Your Word deprive me!  
Your Baptism, Supper, and Your Word My comfort here below afford;  
Here lies my heart's true treasure.**

**O help, Lord, that we worthily Go to Your holy Table,  
Our sins lamenting heartily, And with Your merits noble  
And Your great kindness us refresh; Then surely e'er we'll strive afresh  
Thereby our life to better.**

**Lord Christ, to You be highest praise For this blest Supper given!  
While 'gainst it men bold falsehood raise, Keep it for us from heaven!  
Help that Your body and Your blood May be my soul's consoling food  
In my last moments! Amen.**

## 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.**

The Proper Preface & Sanctus: pp. 73-76

**P:** 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, who after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine nature. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, 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 to the Faithful

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

The 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: pp. 82-83

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

**C: And His mercy endures forever.**

**P: Almighty God, who gives the true Bread which comes down from heaven, even Your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech You, that we who received the Sacrament of His  
Body and Blood may abide in Him, and He in us, that we may be filled with the power of His  
endless life; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and  
forever.**

**C: Amen.**

The Salutation: p. 84

**P: The Lord be with you.**

**C: And with your spirit.**

The Benedicamus: p. 84

**P:** Let us bless the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

The Benediction: p. 84

**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: 397, *O Christ, Our Hope, Our Heart's Desire* (Tune: 153)

**C: O Christ, our hope, our hearts' desire, Redemption's only spring!  
Creator of the world art Thou, Its Savior and its King,  
Its Savior and its King.**

**How vast the mercy and the love Which laid our sins on Thee,  
And led Thee to a cruel death To set Thy people free,  
To set Thy people free!**

**But now the bands of death are burst, The ransom has been paid!  
And Thou art on Thy Father's throne, In glorious robes arrayed,  
In glorious robes arrayed.**

**O may Thy mighty love prevail Our sinful souls to spare!  
O may we come before Thy throne And find acceptance there,  
And find acceptance there!**

**O Christ, be Thou our present joy, Our future great reward;  
Our only glory may it be To glory in the Lord,  
To glory in the Lord!**

# Our Life Together

**THE PASTOR IS AVAILABLE** for private Confession & Absolution, and for confidential pastoral counselling, or just to chat. Please feel free to stop in. (The Augsburg Confession teaches that “[private] Confession is not abolished among us. ... Our people are taught that they should highly prize the Absolution as being God’s voice and pronounced by God’s command. ... They are reminded what great consolation it brings to anxious consciences. ... They are taught that faith in Christ truly obtains and receives the forgiveness of sins.” Article 25)

**The Bible Study** meets after the Service at Bethany. Today we will hopefully be finishing up the Great Flood and getting into the Tower of Babel. The Thursday study is covering the last several chapters of 1 Chronicles in preparation for those chapters of 1 Kings that concern Solomon’s reign and the construction of the Temple. *All are welcome and encouraged to attend one or both studies!*

**There are three copies of the new *Lutheran Sentinel*** on the table in the narthex. This latest issue addresses the question *Why Am I a Lutheran?* It includes short articles written by pastors and laymen testifying to what drew them to confessional Lutheranism out of whatever other denomination they came from. The two laymen who are on the board of the Bugenhagen Liturgical Institute with Pastor Lawson each have articles – Tony Verkinnis and Jeremy Aiello.



**The Feast of Pentecost**, the fifth high feast of the church is next Sunday. As the Feast of the Holy Spirit, Pentecost ranks in importance with Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, and Ascension. *Holy Communion will be celebrated.* Plan to keep the Feast in the Church to celebrate the Person and work of the Spirit of God who calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies and keeps us in the true faith.

**Synod Convention:** Pastor will attending the annual convention of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod in Mankato, MN June 16-19, followed by the *Apologetics Conference* on the Bethany College Campus on June 20.

**The Word of the Lord Endures Forever** is a daily 15-minute verse by verse Bible Study on demand hosted by confessional Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Pastor Will Weedon.

Currently Pastor Weedon is going through Genesis 24-39. Go to [thewordendures.org/search-by-book/](http://thewordendures.org/search-by-book/) to see the extensive list of books that have already been covered.

**Contenting for Truth In an Age of Anti-Truth...Issues, Etc.** is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. *Recent subjects include: Christian Silence, Scripture Alone, Christians in the Public Square, The Lutheran Worldview, Christian Peace, The Progressive Assault on the U.S. Constitution and more.* You can listen at your convenience at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider like Spotify.

### **Feasts, Commemorations, and Events**

**Monday:** Pastor in Portland

**Tuesday:** Pastor at Bethany

**Wednesday:** Pastor at Concordia

**Thursday:** *Commemoration of St. Boniface of Mainz, Bishop & Missionary to the Germans*; Bible study at Bethany, 10:00am

**Friday:** Pastor at Bethany

**Saturday:** Pastor's Day Off

**Next Sunday:** FEAST OF HOLY PENTECOST

Concordia Holy Communion, 9:00am

Bethany Holy Communion, 11:00am;

Bethany Sunday School & Bible Study, 12:30pm

Youth Catechesis at Bethany, 1:45pm

**Sunday After the Ascension:** The loving Creator's presence and power surmounts every impediment to life and sanctifies all its impairments. He works new life in those as dead as stones (Ezekiel 36:26), abundant life among those as abandoned as exiles (Ezekiel 36:24, 28), and everlasting life for those as bereft as beggars (Ezekiel 36:29-30). Jesus stoops these gifts into – and brings them up out of – every kind of uncleanness (Ezekiel 36:25).

**Prayer:** *Dear Father, invite and involve us in Your overcoming. Amen.*

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

**Hymn for the Sunday After Ascension:** “Our help is ever, Lord, in Thee, Who madest earth and heaven!” The CHIEF HYMN *If God Had not Been On Our Side* (ELH 396) is Luther's (1483-1546) paraphrase of Psalm 124, written in 1524. The tune is a Lutheran original, by the chief musician of Wittenberg, Johann Walter (1496-1570). Luther knew the Psalms by heart from his time in the monastery. He wrote hymns to confess and teach the faith and spread the newly-rediscovered Gospel. He used the Psalms as the basis and inspiration for some of his hymns. Luther's theological writings also show his familiarity with the Psalms. He envisioned a plan to write a hymn for each of the 150 Psalms and he encouraged others to follow his example. In all, Luther wrote five Psalm hymns:

Psalm 12: “O Lord, Look Down from Heaven, Behold” (ELH 440)

Psalm 14: “Although the Fools Say with Their Mouths”

Psalm 46: “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” (ELH 250/251)

Psalm 124: “If God Had Not Been On Our Side” (ELH 396)

Psalm 130: “Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee” (ELH 452)