ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Lohman (Stringtown), Missouri

Phone (573) 782-3191 Cell: (573) 818-2112

Brian Whittle, Pastor

Email: stjohnstringtown@gmail.com Website: www.stjohnstringtown.org Facebook: fb.me/stjohnstringtown/

September 1, 2024 The 15th Sunday after Pentecost

St. John's Lutheran Church is a supporting congregation Calvary Lutheran High School, Jefferson City, 638-0228.

Green is the color of the season. During the Sundays after Pentecost, the readings reflect Jesus' teaching and ministry more than the major events of His life. We focus on our own life and growth in Christ.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated today. If you have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and believe that with the bread and wine Christ gives you His true body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins and belong to the LCMS fellowship, you are invited to join in this blessed Sacrament. Gluten-free wafers are available; speak with Pastor or an elder prior to worship. (If you are desiring to commune for the first time at St. John's as a Lutheran or you are a non-Lutheran, please see the pastor prior to the service).

Last Sunday, Aug 25, 2024:

Attendance: 83 (3 livestream)

Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF: 14 / 20 / 2

Offerings: \$1641 / \$102 / \$645 (electronic)
Tomorrow's Teachers and Preachers: \$212

Calvary Lutheran High School News and Information

CALVARY INSIDER – How did the school year start out?

- Pastor Steensma led Wednesday chapel and shared a message on Isaiah 43:1-3.
- Student Government prepared and distributed Mum Certificates to the Calvary students this week. Did you know that each class raises money for their class gift throughout their time at Calvary through Mum Certificates sales? Read below to find out more!

CALVARY HOME OPENERS THIS WEEK!

Show up! Be Loud! #FeeltheRoar

Sept 3 Soccer v Green Ridge 4:30PM

Sept 5 Baseball v Sturgeon 4:30PM

Sept 5 JV/V Volleyball v Dixon 5PM

Check out our website (calvarylhs.org) for all events!

CLHS HOME COMPETITIONS – We are excited to have you cheer on our Lions during the school year at our home competitions! The following is a listing of prices for our gate: Adults - \$5, Students - \$3, Senior Citizens - Free, Calvary Students & Staff - Free. The monies received from the gate offset compensation for MSHSAA officials.

FALL MUM CERTIFICATES ARE HERE! — Certificates for mums can be purchased at the school office (573-638- 0228), or from a Calvary student. Certificates can be redeemed at Trinklein's Greenhouse now through September 30. The cost is \$12 each for a 9" Mum pot. Trinklein's is open Mon - Sat, 10 am - 4 pm, and they are located at 7518 Tanner Bridge Road, Jefferson City, MO. Funds raised will be used by Calvary students for their senior class gift toward school improvement.

SPEND A SATURDAY @ **CALVARY'S GIFT** — Saturdays are very busy at our "upscale retail store" and we need volunteers — especially in receiving and at the check-out counter. Ready to help out? Call the shop during business hours at (573) 659-8176 or apply to volunteer visiting the Calvary Linktree: linktr.ee/calvarylhs. We would love to have you help for part of the day or a dedicated "once a month" Saturday. Thank you for supporting & volunteering at "the Gift!"

Happening at St. John's:

Next Sunday is Mission Sunday. Pastor Timothy Schnare from Lutheran Heritage Foundation will be our guest for Bible Study and the Divine Service. There will be a lunch after the service, followed by a presentation about the work of LHF. Meat will be provided; please bring a side or dessert to share.

Sunday School trip to Fischer Farms will be on October 13. Students and their families are invited to enjoy the Farm from 6 to 8pm.

"We live in the presence of evil. Some of it is twisted to sound good. We hear of 'the compassionate relief of suffering' or 'death with dignity' or 'right to health care' or 'simple medical procedure.' You know many more. God calls us to confront these with His truth, to reveal the evil behind them. God calls us to educate fellow Christians in His truth so they do not end up 'possessed' by this way of thinking. God calls us to call evil what it is, but also to share the truth of what God has done about evil. For that we fix our gaze upon Jesus (Hebrews 12:2). He speaks to us through His Word of truth and grace." Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

This week:

Sunday, 9/1	9am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF
	10am	Divine Service
Tues, 9/3	6:30pm Confirmation Class	
Thurs, 9/5	8pm	Adult Instruction Class – Lutheran Basics
Sunday 9/8	9am	Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF
	10am	Divine Service
		Mission Festival - Lunch

Confession and Absolution

708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

Lord, Thee I love with all my heart;
I pray Thee, ne'er from me depart,
With tender mercy cheer me.
Earth has no pleasure I would share.
Yea, heav'n itself were void and bare
If Thou, Lord, wert not near me.
And should my heart for sorrow break,
My trust in Thee can nothing 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 ev'ry place
May glorify Thy lavish grace
And help and serve my neighbor.
Let no false doctrine me beguile;
Let 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 Abr'ham'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.
 Text: Public domain
 Text: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Exhortation LSB 184

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching 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 unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto 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.

Absolution LSB 185

- 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 unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,* and cleanse me | from my sin! Purge me with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;* wash me, and I shall be whit- er than snow. Create in me a clean heart, O God,* and renew a right spirit with- | in me. Cast me not away from your | presence,* and take not your Holy Spirit | from me. Restore to me the joy of your sal- | vation,* and uphold me with a willing | spirit. Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. Amen. Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,* and cleanse me | from my sin!

Kyrie

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

- **P** Glory be to God on high:
- and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.
 We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy 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,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have
 mercy upon us.
 For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- Let us pray.
 O God, the source of all that is just and good, nourish in us every virtue and bring to completion every good intent that we may grow

in grace and bring forth the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

1"Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the just decrees that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. ²You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you. . . .

⁶Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.' ⁷For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? ⁸And what great nation is there, that has statutes and just decrees so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

⁹"Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children"

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle Ephesians 6:10–20

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸praying at all times in the Spirit, with

all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia LSB 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Mark 7:14-23

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.
- **C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁴[Jesus] called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him." ¹⁷And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, ¹⁹since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²²coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- **C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Sit

566 By Grace I'm Saved

- By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;
 My soul, believe and doubt it not.
 Why stagger at this word of promise?
 Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
 No! Then this word must true remain:
 By grace you too will life obtain.
- 2 By grace! None dare lay claim to merit; Our works and conduct have no worth. God in His love sent our Redeemer, Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth; His death did for our sins atone, And we are saved by grace alone.
- By grace God's Son, our only Savior,
 Came down to earth to bear our sin.
 Was it because of your own merit
 That Jesus died your soul to win?
 No, it was grace, and grace alone,
 That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.
- By grace! This ground of faith is certain;
 As long as God is true, it stands.
 What saints have penned by inspiration,
 What in His Word our God commands,
 Our faith in what our God has done
 Depends on grace—grace through His Son.

- 5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation's furnace tried, By grace, in spite of fear and trouble, The Father's heart is open wide. Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure?
- By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
 In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
 For though I know my heart's condition,
 I also know my Savior's voice.
 My heart is glad, all grief has flown
 Since I am saved by grace alone.
 Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709-61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Sermon

Stand

Offertory LSB 192

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Presentation of Offering

Prayer of the Church

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the gift of the Holy Spirit at work in the Word of truth, that by His direction we would not stray from the way of God's commandments nor forget the wonderful blessings He has given to us, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For preachers of the Word, that the Lord would remember them in His kindness and strengthen them for faithful service; for Pastor Rich Steensma, missionaries Anna Steffenson, Justin Logston, and Herman Strozier, and for military chaplains Merlin Stephan, Christopher Knepper, and Benjamin Schroeder; and that He would

- send new laborers into His harvest and prosper His Law and promises throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For all pastors and teachers, parents and grandparents, and all teachers of the faith, that through them we may grow into wisdom and the knowledge of God's love in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For all the children of God, that we would recognize and give thanks for His many blessings; especially for those who celebrate His gifts this week, including Deborah Belt (9/6), Rose Scheperle (9/6), Brice Ziegelbein (9/7), and Adam & Cara Ziegelbein (9/1), let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For those who bear public office, that God would give them wisdom, courage and integrity; and for our nation, that God would destroy and hinder in our common lives whatever is not pleasing to Him and prosper all that accords with His will, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For all in need of health, healing and mercy, [including Paula Scheperle, Cindy Eggen, Marguerite Young, LeeRoy Wunderlich, Larry Wunderlich, Sharon Fischer, Addie Beinlich, Tammy Deaver, Harry Lee Hentges, and Patty Ott _____, J that the Lord of life would strengthen them with His Word of grace to look to Him for comfort in the midst of suffering and pain, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For all who come to the Holy Sacrament today, that receiving Christ's true body and blood in this Supper, they may remember and proclaim with joy the salvation He accomplished for us by His death and resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P Lord God, heavenly Father, we offer You our thanks and praise for Your servants who have finished their course in faith and now rest from their labors. Bring us with them to the unspeakable joys of Your new heavens and new earth at the day of our Savior's glorious appearing. Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 194

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them up unto the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
- C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

It is truly meet, 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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus LSB 195

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Lord's Prayer LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 197

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
 - C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

- O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 - O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 - O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

Distribution

619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior

Thy body, giv'n for me, O Savior,
 Thy blood which Thou for me didst shed,
 These are my life and strength forever,
 By them my hungry soul is fed. Refrain

- ref Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!
- With Thee, Lord, I am now united;
 I live in Thee and Thou in me.
 No sorrow fills my soul, delighted
 It finds its only joy in Thee. Refrain
- Who can condemn me now? For surely
 The Lord is nigh, who justifies.

 No hell I fear, and thus securely
 With Jesus I to heaven rise. Refrain
- Though death may threaten with disaster,
 It cannot rob me of my cheer;
 For He who is of death the master
 With aid and comfort e'er is near. Refrain
- My heart has now become Thy dwelling,
 O blessèd, holy Trinity.
 With angels I, Thy praises telling,
 Shall live in joy eternally. Refrain
 Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677-1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.
 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003409

587 I Know My Faith Is Founded

- I know my faith is founded
 On Jesus Christ, my God and Lord;
 And this my faith confessing,
 Unmoved I stand on His sure Word.
 Our reason cannot fathom
 The truth of God profound;
 Who trusts in human wisdom
 Relies on shifting ground.
 God's Word is all-sufficient,
 It makes divinely sure;
 And trusting in its wisdom,
 My faith shall rest secure.
- Increase my faith, dear Savior, For Satan seeks by night and day To rob me of this treasure And take my hope of bliss away. But, Lord, with You beside me, I shall be undismayed;

And led by Your good Spirit, I shall be unafraid. Abide with me. O Savior. A firmer faith bestow; Then I shall bid defiance To ev'ry evil foe.

3 In faith, Lord, let me serve You: Though persecution, grief, and pain Should seek to overwhelm me. Let me a steadfast trust retain: And then at my departure, Lord, take me home to You, Your riches to inherit As all You said holds true. In life and death, Lord, keep me Until Your heav'n I gain, Where I by Your great mercy The end of faith attain. Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Text: Public domain

582 God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

1

God's Word is our great heritage And shall be ours forever; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our chief endeavor. Through life it guides our way, In death it is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds endure, We keep its teachings pure Throughout all generations.

Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925, alt.
Text: Public domain

698 May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill

- May we Thy precepts, Lord, fulfill And do on earth our Father's will As angels do above: Still walk in Christ, the living way, With all Thy children and obey The law of Christian love.
- 2 So may we join Thy name to bless, Thy grace adore, Thy pow'r confess, From sin and strife to flee.

One is our calling, one our name, The end of all our hopes the same, A crown of life with Thee.

3 Spirit of life, of love and peace,
Unite our hearts, our joy increase,
Thy gracious help supply.
To each of us the blessing give
In Christian fellowship to live,
In joyful hope to die.
Text: Edward Osler, 1798-1863, alt.
Text: Public domain

Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal LSB 199

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart

→ in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth forever.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same 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 God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Salutation LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.

P

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction LSB 202

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.

656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.

The old evil foe

Now means deadly woe;

Deep guile and great might

Are his dread arms in fight; On earth is not his equal.

2 With might of ours can naught be done,

Soon were our loss effected;

But for us fights the valiant One,

Whom God Himself elected.

Ask ye, Who is this?

Jesus Christ it is,

Of Sabaoth Lord,

And there's none other God;

He holds the field forever.

3 Though devils all the world should fill,

All eager to devour us,

We tremble not, we fear no ill;

They shall not overpow'r us.

This world's prince may still

Scowl fierce as he will,

He can harm us none.

He's judged; the deed is done;

One little word can fell him.

4 The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.
Text: tr. composite; Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Acknowledgments

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