

Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost

November 19, 8:45 & 11:15 AM

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Fugue in E flat Major, BWV 552 'St. Anne'

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ♣ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

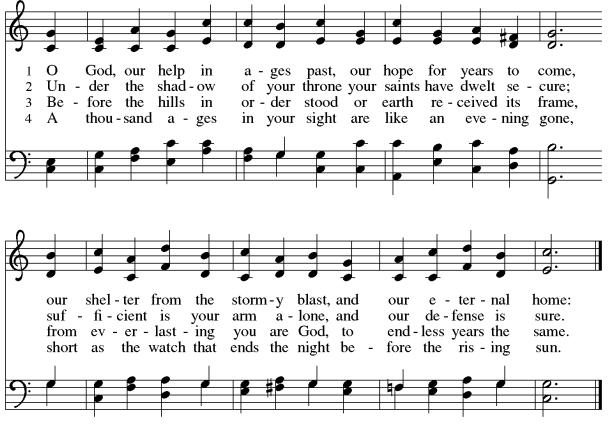
Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through \clubsuit Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN • ELW 632



- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away; we fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

GREETING

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.

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

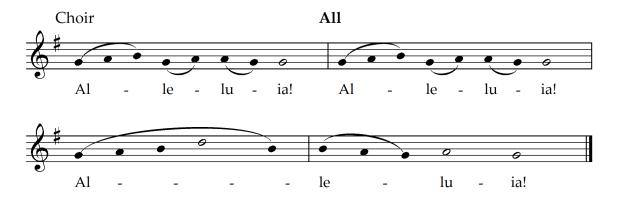
Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

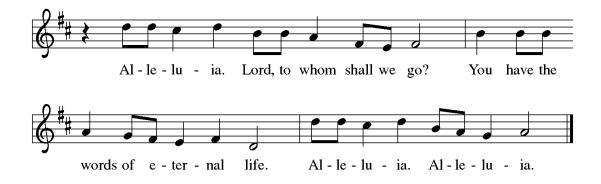
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (8:45)

The choir introduces the Alleluia Refrain before the verse. Please sing where indicated. After the verse, sing the Alleluia Refrain directly after the choir as written.



AllAlleluia.ChoirAbide in me as I abide in you; those who abide in me bear much fruit. (John 15:4, 5)AllAlleluia.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (11:15)



GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.""

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

Pastor Miller



Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt. Music: ABBOTS LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991 Text © Union of Welsh Independents. Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith. I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each portion of the prayers: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

Please be seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at <u>saintlukegive.us</u> You may also mail your checks to:

> Saint Luke Lutheran Church 9100 Colesville Road Silver Spring, MD 20910

CHORAL ANTHEM (8:45)

O How Amiable

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord. My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. They will be alway praising thee.

The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handiwork.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

Text: based on Psalm 84 & 90 Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING (11:15)

Chorale Prelude on "Houston"

Rebecca Groom Te Velde (b. 1956)

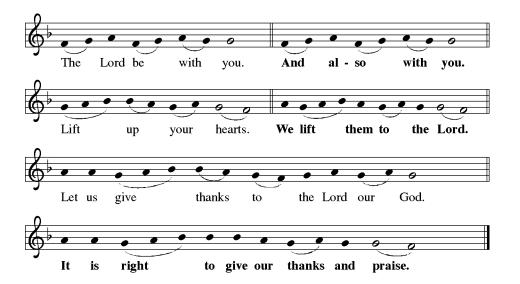
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OFFERING PRAYER

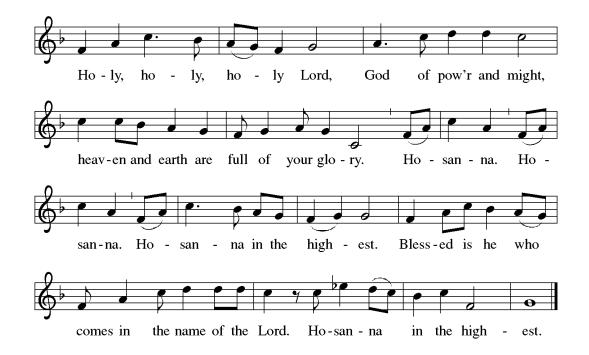
Let us pray.

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please pray in your own preferred language.

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table. **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

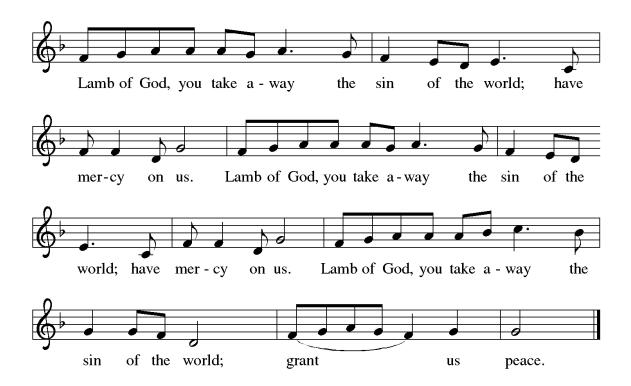
COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are two stations at the foot of the chancel steps. Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ. (Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server) Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD





Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

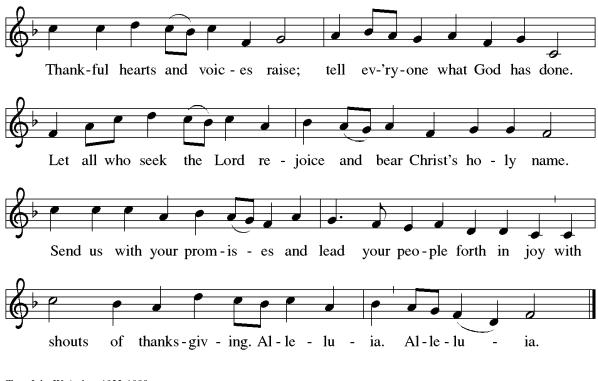
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Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

POST- COMMUNION CANTICLE



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

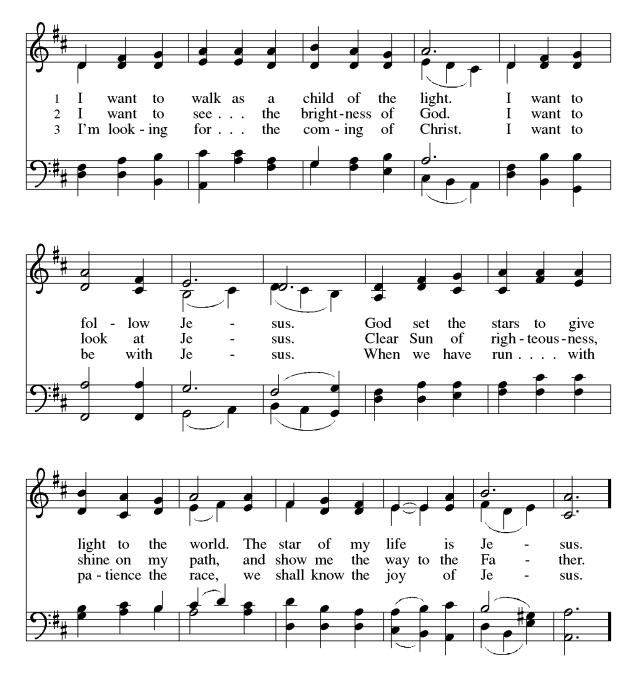
Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and 承 give you peace. Amen.



Refrain is on the next page.



Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Fiat Lux (Let There Be Light)

Théodore Dubois (1837-1924)

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTERS

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, *Senior Pastor* Bishop Richard Graham, *Pastor In Residence* (8:45) The Rev. Richard Zawistoski, *Confirmation Pastor*

ASSISTING MINISTER

Deacon Kyle Warfield, Director of Discipleship and Senior High Ministries

READERS

8:45 Cynthia and Genesis Bonilla11:15 Ruth Manchester

MUSICIANS

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist* Schola Cantorum & Choristers (8:45)

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This week at Saint Luke Lutheran Church

SUNDAY, Nov. 19-25th Sunday after Pentecost

- 8:45 AM Worship 10:00 AM SLSHY: Coll
- 10:00 AMSLSHY: College Care Packages10:00 AMAffirmation of Baptism Class
- 10:00 AM Annihilation of Baptism Class 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Sunday S
- 10:00 AM SLSHY
- 10:00 AM Up For Discussion (Hybrid)
- 10:15 AM Peace in Time of War—Discussion
- 11:15 AM Worship
- 12:30 PM Thanksgiving Basket Set Up
- 12:30 PM Genesis Bells Rehearsal

MONDAY, November 20

| 8:00 AM | CDS Classes |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| 10:00 AM | Thanksgiving Recording |
| 12:00 PM | Food Distribution |
| 1:30 PM | CDS Staff Meeting |
| 4:00 PM | After School Art Program - Langley |
| | Park |
| 6:00 PM | Yoga |
| 7:00 PM | ESL Class |

TUESDAY, November 21

8:00 AM CDS Classes
10:00 AM Food Distribution
1:30 PM Program Staff Meeting
4:30 PM Piano Lessons
7:00 PM Reformation Bells
7:00 PM Girl Scouts
7:00 PM ESL Class

WEDNESDAY, November 22

- 7:00 AM Faith Connections (Zoom)
- 8:00 AM CDS Classes
- 10:00 AM Women in Community
- 10:00 AM CDS Chapel
- 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Worship (Online)

7:30 PM AA

THURSDAY, November 23

Thanksgiving-Office Closed

FRIDAY, November 24

Office Closed

SATURDAY, November 25

8:00 AM Food Distribution: Langley Park9:30 AM AA11:00 AM Al-Anon

SUNDAY, Nov. 26—Christ the King

| 8:45 AM | Worship |
|----------|------------------------------|
| 10:00 AM | Affirmation of Baptism Class |
| 10:00 AM | Sunday School |
| 10:00 AM | SLSHY |
| 10:00 AM | Up For Discussion (Hybrid) |
| 11:15 AM | Worship |
| 12:30 PM | Genesis Bells Rehearsal |
| 5:00 PM | San Lucas Misa Español |
| 5:00 PM | Reception |
| | |

NB: Worship Services are in person and livestreamed

Upcoming Commemorations

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100 *Thursday, November 23, 2023*

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927 Thursday, November 23, 2023

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America

Friday, November 24, 2023

Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748 Saturday, November 25, 2023

Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms, but others that are not.

Today's Music

Organ Music

Prelude and Postlude: Prelude in E-flat Major, BWV 552—Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

In 1739, J.S. Bach published the Clavier-Übung III, a monumental collection of liturgical organ works which is sometimes called the German Organ Mass. The compilation begins and ends with two mighty musical pillars which have been catalogued as the Prelude and Fugue in E-flat Major, BWV 552. The latter has been nicknamed the "St. Anne" Fugue because its subject is strikingly similar to William Croft's English hymn of the same name.

The Clavier-Übung III is filled with references to Christian numerology, especially to the Trinity. The Prelude, set in a key with three flats, is made up of three themes. The first, containing the majestic dotted rhythms of a French overture, may represent the Father. The second theme, representing the Son, is quieter with a graceful galant statement, followed by an echo. This section has been compared to an Italian concerto. The final theme, representing the Holy Ghost, is filled with fugal counterpoint with rapidly moving eighth notes "descending, flickering like tongues of fire." As the Prelude unfolds, the themes overlap, suggesting a cosmic sense of unity.

Choral Anthem

Simplicity is a keynote in Vaughan Williams's *O how amiable*, and the reason is the circumstances in which it was composed. In 1934 the novelist E.M. Forster wrote "The Abinger Pageant", a play about the history of England, performed to aid preservation work at a church near where he lived in Surrey. Vaughan Williams's anthem was written to be sung by amateur performers as part of the festivities, and the mainly unison writing reflects this. It also emphasizes the communal nature of the pageant experience, as does the addition of a verse from the famous hymn "O God our help in ages past" at the conclusion.

<u>Hymns</u>

This is **Isaac Watts (1674-1748)** at his finest. In **"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"** he is paraphrasing the first part of Psalm 90. His original had nine stanzas and was published in his *Psalms of David* (London, 1719), where it was headed "Man frail, and God eternal" – which aptly summarizes it. Stanzas 4, 6, and 8 have regularly been omitted. Julian said "it would be difficult to write too highly" of this hymn, then added that the omitted stanzas "are unequal to the rest, and impede the otherwise grandly sustained flow of thought. John Wesley changed Watts's opening line from "Our God, our help in ages past" to "O God, our help in ages past:" in his *Collection of Psalms and Hymns* (London, 1738). The change has stuck, probably because it avoids the repetition of "our," though it makes no improvement. – ELW Hymnal Companion

Charlotte Elliot wrote "My God and Father, while I stray" (*Common Service Book* [1917]). It prays that, in whatever darkness, sadness, and grief one may face, she or he would be submissive, resigned, and "murmur not." Each stanza concludes with the petition from the Lord's Prayer "Thy will be done." The committee in England preparing *The Congregational Hymnary* of 1916 analyzed this hymn, pronounced it "highly poetic and God-centered," but noted "this weakness, that it stressed the resignation to the will of God without taking cognizance of the necessity of actively participating with the divine purpose." In response **Howell Lewis** (1860-1953) wrote "Lord of Light" for the hymnal, using the same petition of the Lord's Prayer as a refrain to each stanza but with a different sense – "to fulfill your purpose in the gift of Christ your Son." In his own words, Lewis sought "to supplement" Elliot's hymn "as best I could." He did considerably more than that. – ELW Hymnal Companion

"Christ, Be Our Light" is structured so that the stanzas press from longing for the signs of the kingdom of God to us as its servants and signs. The refrain that follows is a petition that Christ would be our light and shine in our hearts as the church is gathered by that light. Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957) is a liturgical composer in Great Britain who has been part of the church's liturgical renewal since the Second Vatican Council. — ELW Hymnal Companion

Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934) regards "**I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light**" as a scriptural meditation and prayer, stimulated by a host of biblical verses mostly related to light. Thomerson was born in Tennessee. She studied organ with the famous French organist Jean Langlais, the Flemish organist Flor Peeters and the Swiss organist Guy Bovet. - ELW Hymnal Companion