

# Hymns for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

*August 10, 2025*

University Lutheran Church | Cambridge, Mass.

ACS 1026 (Gathering Hymn)

## In the Midst of Earthly Life



1 In the midst of earth - ly life fear and death be - set us;  
2 In the midst of death's dark vale, shade and still af - fright us;  
3 In the midst of deep de - spair, bane and bat - tle taunt us;



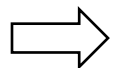
who at - tends and hears our cry, who does not for - get us?  
who will light us through the pale, com - fort us and guide us?  
is there not a ref - uge, where ter - ror can - not haunt us?



You on - ly, God, you on - ly. In you our fore - bears put their trust,  
You on - ly, God, you on - ly. To you our fore - bears cried in need;  
In you, O Christ, you on - ly, with glo - ry from God's lov - ing face,



hoped in you and were not crushed. Ho - ly and righ - teous God!  
you, God, were their light in - deed. Ho - ly and righ - teous God!  
and the Spir - it's peace - ful ways. Ho - ly and righ - teous God!

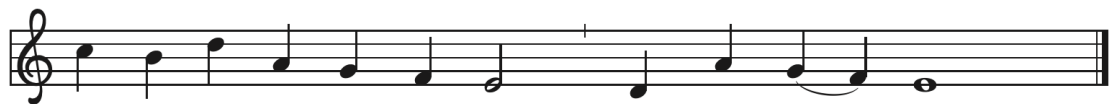




Ho - ly and might - y God!      Ho - ly and all - mer - ci - ful  
Ho - ly and might - y God!      Ho - ly and all - mer - ci - ful  
Ho - ly and might - y God!      Ho - ly and all - mer - ci - ful



Sav - ior!      Ev - er - last - ing God!      Though death would tor - ment us,  
Sav - ior!      Ev - er - last - ing God!      Though de - spair would smite us,  
Sav - ior!      Ev - er - last - ing God!      Though the grave would daunt us,



let us not sink in the dust.      Lord, have mer - cy.  
let us not its shad - ow heed.      Lord, have mer - cy.  
safe we shel - ter in your gaze.      Lord, have mer - cy.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: MITTEN WIR IM LEBEN SIND, Gradual, 13th cent., adapt. Johann Walter, 1496–1570

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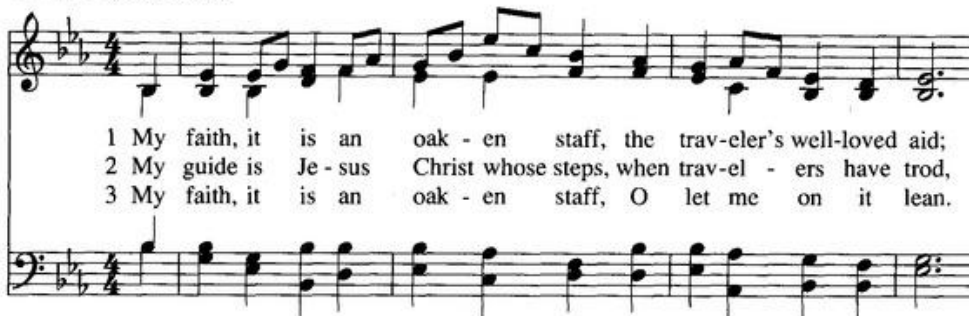
# The New Century Hymnal 418 (Hymn of the Day)

## My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff

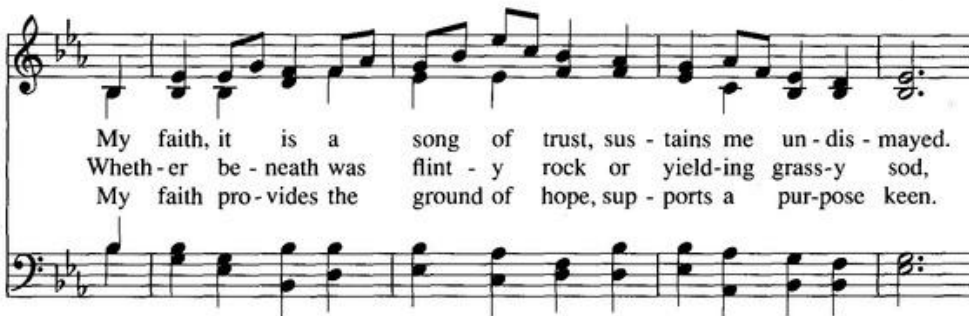
FAITH

418

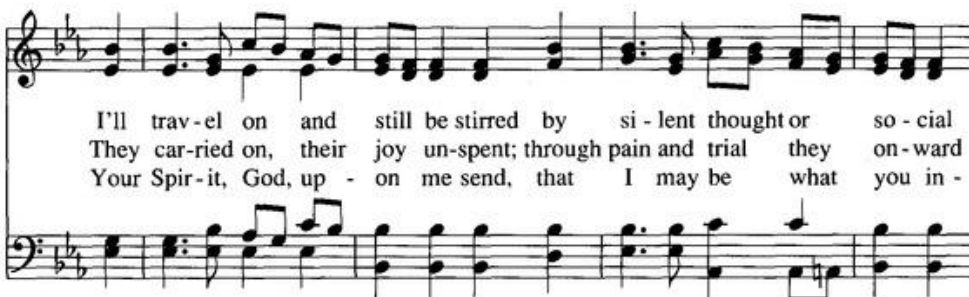
Thomas T. Lynch, 1855; alt.



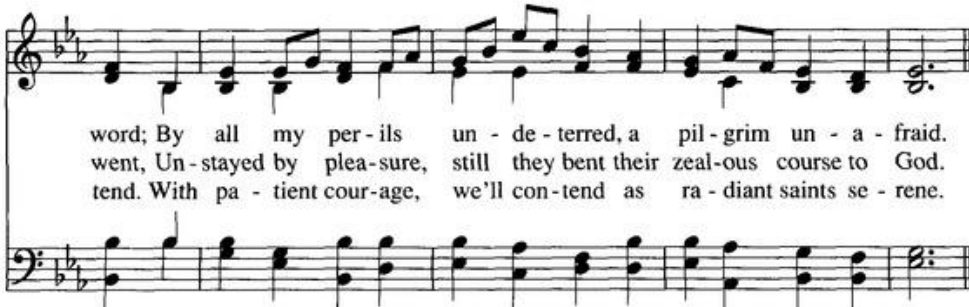
1 My faith, it is an oak - en staff, the trav-eler's well-loved aid;  
 2 My guide is Je - sus Christ whose steps, when trav-el - ers have trod,  
 3 My faith, it is an oak - en staff, O let me on it lean.



My faith, it is a song of trust, sus - tains me un - dis - mayed.  
 Wheth - er be - neath was flint - y rock or yield-ing grass-y sod,  
 My faith pro - vides the ground of hope, sup - ports a pur - pose keen.



I'll trav-el on and still be stirred by si - lent thought or so - cial  
 They car - ried on, their joy un - spent; through pain and trial they on - ward  
 Your Spir - it, God, up - on me send, that I may be what you in -



word; By all my per - ils un - de - terred, a pil - grim un - a - fraid.  
 went, Un - stayed by plea - sure, still they bent their zeal - ous course to God.  
 tend. With pa - tient cour - age, we'll con - tend as ra - diant saints se - rene.

A gifted Congregational minister in London, Thomas Toke Lynch was the subject of controversy within the churches upon the publication of his hymn collection, *The Rivulet*, which received poor reviews. This hymn was labeled Lynch's "best" when it appeared in *Congregational Praise* (1951).

Tune: THE STAFF OF FAITH 8.6.8.6.8.8.8.6.  
 Swiss folk melody  
 Fellowship Hymn Book, 1910

## ACS 954 (Hymn during Communion 1)

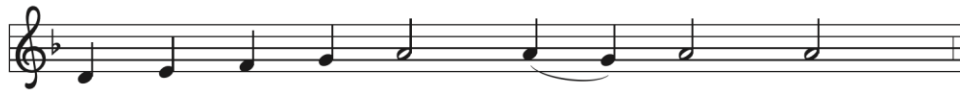
### You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd



1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.  
2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,  
3 You, who walk each day be - side us,  
4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.  
stripped of might up - on the cross,  
sit in pow - er at God's side.  
Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er  
shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,  
You, who preach a way that's nar - row,  
Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.  
beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,  
have a love that reach - es wide.  
wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;  
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.  
you, who are both gift and cost.  
you, who are our pil - grim guide.  
you, who are our death and life.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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ACS 1027 (Hymn during Communion 2)

## Don't Be Afraid

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the soprano part, with the bass part providing harmonic support. The lyrics are: "Don't be a-fraid. My love is stron-ger, my love is stron-ger than your fear. Don't be a-fraid. My love is stron-ger and I have prom-ised, prom-ised to be al-ways near." The score consists of three systems of staves. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, the second system covers the second line, and the third system covers the third line. The music ends with a double bar line.

Don't be a-fraid. My love is stron-ger, my love is stron-ger than your

fear. Don't be a-fraid. My love is stron-ger and

I have prom-ised, prom-ised to be al-ways near.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949, and Graham Maule, 1958–2019

Music: DON'T BE AFRAID, John L. Bell

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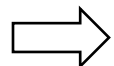
## Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the final four lines. The piano accompaniment is written in the bass clef, and the vocal parts are written in the treble clef. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is common time (C).

1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your  
2 Dark - er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er  
3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the  
4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your

lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps  
mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er mid - night  
morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing  
lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps

trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.  
lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.  
soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.  
trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.



*Refrain*

Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;

chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al-most done.

Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

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