

SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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LET THEM TAKE
UP THEIR CROSS
AND FOLLOW ME

"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 30, 2026

August 30, 2026
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE *For the Beauty of the Earth* - arr. Harold DeCou

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

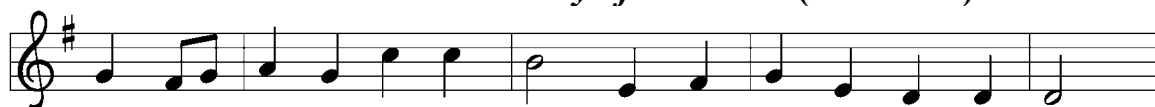
***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.
Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG *For the Beauty of the Earth* (ELW 879)**



- 1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
- 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
- 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
- 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
- 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

***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.

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE *Holy God, We Praise Your Name* (ELW 414) VS 1,4**



1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we

4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,

bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,

three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;

all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your

un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,

vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.

bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900
Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

A reading from Jeremiah.

Jeremiah's delight in the word of the LORD is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."

¹⁵ O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD:

If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;

they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,

for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,

says the LORD.

²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 26:1-8

(read responsively between lector and congregation, beginning with the lector)

¹ Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived [|] with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and [|] have not faltered.

² **Test me, O [|] LORD, and try me;**
examine my heart [|] and my mind.

³ For your steadfast love is be- [|] fore my eyes;
I have walked faithful- [|] ly with you.

⁴ **I have not sat [|] with the worthless,**
nor do I consort with [|] the deceitful.

⁵ I have hated the company of [|] evildoers;
I will not sit down [|] with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in inno- [|] cence, O LORD,**
that I may go in procession [|] round your altar,

⁷ singing aloud a song [|] of thanksgiving
and recounting all your won- [|] derful deeds.

⁸ **LORD, I love the house in [|] which you dwell**
and the place where your glo- [|] ry abides.

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

A reading from Romans.

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer.

¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 102)**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

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

SERMON Rev. Julia Brown

*Please stand as you are able for the final verse.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Will You Come and Follow Me: The Summons* (ELW 798)



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
your name? Will you care for cruel and
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
your name? Will you quell the fear in -
my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
kind and nev - er be the same?
free and nev - er be the same?
side and nev - er be the same?
you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
world a - round, through my sight and touch and
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
pray'r in you and you in me?"
mean in you and you in me?"
sound in you and you in me?"
grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

***CREED**

**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.**

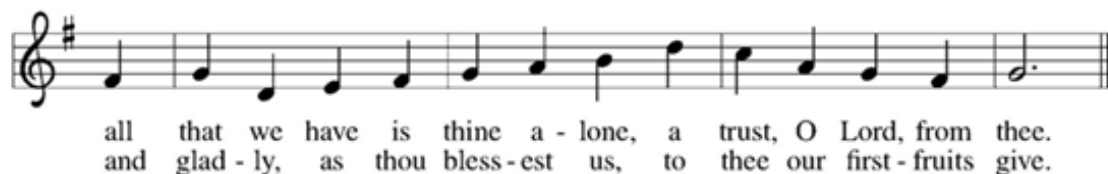
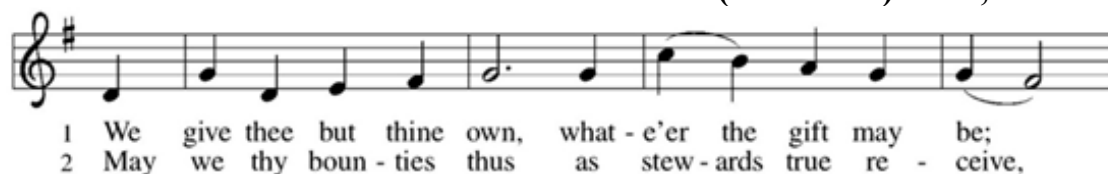
***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** (Please respond.)

P: Merciful God, **C:** receive our prayer.

***PEACE**

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

***OFFERTORY *We Give Thee but Thine Own* (ELW 686) VS 1,2**



Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.
Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 108)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

COMMUNION

Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher. After you receive the bread, you may take a cup of red wine or white grape juice from the tray. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Gluten free wafers are available, ask the Pastor when you come forward. Notify the Head Usher if you would appreciate receiving Communion at your seat rather than walking up to the altar, the Pastor and Communion Assistant will be happy to bring Communion to you.

COMMUNION SONG *Come to the Table* (ELW 481)



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942

Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956

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COMMUNION Time for quiet meditation

*COMMUNION BLESSING

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

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

*BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,

✝ one God,

bless, heal, and hold you

today and always.

Amen.

*SENDING SONG *Lift High the Cross* (ELW 660)



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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*DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES/SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE *My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker* - Kevin Hildebrand

SERVING TODAY

Interim Pastor	Rev. Julia Brown
Church Office Email Address	office@solomonslutheran.org
Organist	Mary-Jo Bedsworth
Head Usher	Martie Veilleux
Acolyte	Wayne Dale
Lector.....	Martie Veilleux
Securing Offering.....	Aaron Shreiner & Wayne Dale
Communion Set-Up.....	Marjorie Dale
Communion Clean-Up	Marjorie Dale
Communion Bread	Frances Reichard
Communion Assist	Marjorie Dale
Attendance last Sunday.....	22

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the glory of God.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

Any pastoral care or concerns can be addressed to Pastor Christopher Frye, Dean of the Chambersburg Conference at 717-261-1213 (St. Luke's Church, Scotland).

Prayer requests for the following: *the friends and family of Dennis Hose, Dick Amt, Denny Helman, Phil Johnson, Betty Amt, Marie Dovey, Amy Eichelberger, Paul Steiding, Sam Brooks, Kaitlyn Dovey, Patsy Wildeson, James Bersch, Kristen Hardman, Charles Carl, Debbie Aschmann, Donna, Karen, Linda Mumaugh, Becky Ensinger, all the Homebound, and our world & country. If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire, 717-264-3702.*

Please Be Aware: *We wish to be a praying congregation, and especially for those who are sick or experiencing difficult times. We will continue to name person's (first name only) aloud each Sunday, and we will hold each name for a month. In order to keep our list updated we ask that by the final Thursday of the month, but please call Janice McEntire 717 264-3702 to keep the name on for an extra month. Any name can remain for as long as desired, but we need to hear from the person adding the name, or we will presume the name can be removed. Thank you for your understanding.*

Worship services will begin at 10:15 a.m. beginning next Sunday, September 6th.

Help is needed to serve a luncheon on Saturday, September 12. See sign-up sheet on bulletin board.

Attention all members - please plan to attend our first meeting on September 13 after worship to vote on leaving the ELCA.

Beginning October 7, we will begin Bible Study on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Sarge will be leading the study. At our first meeting we plan to have a short lesson and then discuss what our study lessons will be. If you have any ideas, please contact Sarge.

As the summer quickly draws to a close, it will soon be time for choir rehearsals to resume. Plans are tentatively set for rehearsals to begin Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 PM. Rehearsals generally last about an hour. New members are most definitely welcome to join our current members. Consider joining your voice with others to help lead our worship services each week.

Social Ministry is collecting items for personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. Kits will be assembled on Sunday, September 20th following service. Display of items needed will be in the sanctuary. Anyone wishing to give a monetary donation can make a check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and mark "care kits" on memo line. Cash can be placed in an envelope and marked "care kits"

On Sunday, October 11, Worship and Music will be sponsoring a luncheon



following worship to celebrate Solomon's 260th Anniversary. Pastor Michael Allwein will serve as pastor on this special day. We hope to have a display of memorabilia of years gone by at Solomon's, from the log church to our present facility. Please look through photos and other materials regarding Solomon's that you would like to have displayed. Photos would include wedding, baptism, catechism, members, and church activities. Please contact Bonney Coldsmith or any member of Worship and Music if you are willing to share items. The luncheon will be held in the Fellowship Center. Chicken will be provided. Attendees are asked to bring either a side dish or dessert to share. A sign-up sheet will be in

the Sunday School room. All members of Solomon's and previous members and their families are invited. Let's make this a special day of remembrance and fellowship.

Power Pack Meals - Social Ministry is once again collecting nutritious food for New Franklin Elementary School students in need during the 2026-2027 school year. Please place the items in the container in the Sunday School room. If you would like to give a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church and put *Power Pack Meals* in the memo line, or place cash in an envelope and mark *power pack*.

Qigong/Tai Chi Class is cancelled for this session due to unforeseen circumstances.

If you would like to send a get-well card to Phil Johnson, we are sure he would greatly appreciate it.

Rally Day - Sunday, September 13. Breakfast (sausage egg casserole, sticky buns, almond bars, bacon, fresh fruit, coffee, tea & water) is at 9:00 a.m. in Solomon's Fellowship Center followed by speaker David Rudy from Joy El Ministries from 9:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.

If you are not taking your altar flowers home, please let Kathy Bowen know to whom or to where you would like them donated. Thanks.

The 2026 sign-up charts for Acolyte, Lector etc. are on the table in the Sunday School room. Please sign up for as many as you can.

The 2026 Chart for Altar flowers is on the table in the Sunday School room. The cost of the two vases will be \$60.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$60.00 with the bulletin information.

Hymn Notes:

Our gathering song this morning, "For the Beauty of the Earth," was written by Folliot S. Pierpoint (1835-1917). The original text was intended to show Holy Communion as a joyful, holy feast, and the refrain was "Christ our God, to Thee we sing, this our sacrifice of praise." Changing "sacrifice" to "this our hymn" of grateful praise has made it more generally a thanksgiving for creation, for our physical senses, for human love, and for everything good that God gives to us. (Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins, Austin C. Lovelace, pg. 32).

Today's hymn of the day, "Will You Come and Follow Me," also known as "The Summons," is set to the tune of Kelvingrove, a traditional Scottish melody, written by John L. Bell in 1987. Its text contains thirteen questions asked by Jesus in the first person. The initial four stanzas with the questions are in Jesus' voice, and the fifth stanza is the singer's response to them. Although the hymn is based on Mark 1:16-20, it works well with today's gospel from Matthew, as well as relating to the 2nd lesson this morning. What will be your response to Jesus when he calls you? (Wikipedia)

Our sending song this morning, "Lift High the Cross" is an English Christian hymn, written in 1887 by George Kitchin and revised in 1916 by Michael R. Newbolt. It has been said that this hymn was inspired by the story of Constantine the Great's conversion to Christianity after seeing a cross with "In hoc signo vinces" on it (translation: "in this sign

you will conquer”). It was intended as a festival hymn and was first performed in Winchester Cathedral. "Lift High the Cross" was set to the tune of "Crucifer" by Sydney Nicholson. The hymn is often sung during Lent or Holy Week but is also used as a hymn in other parts of the worship service throughout the Church Year. First published in the United States in 1974, it appears in both our current hymnal and the previous Lutheran Book of Worship. (from Wikipedia)