

## **2009 Global Mission Lenten Series**

### **Worship Resources**

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*Adapted from the liturgy used on Sundays in the Castle and Town Churches in Lutherstadt Wittenberg.*

### **Invocation and Welcome**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**who made heaven and earth.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

*The German worship leader, in the welcome to worship, will normally make reference to the weekly Bible verse (taken from the book published by the Moravian/Herrnhuter community). The weekly Bible verse for the Second Sunday in Lent is: Romans 5:8, "But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us."*

### **Prayer of Preparation**

Gracious God,  
we gather for worship with our hopes and dreams,  
our fears and concerns.  
We come to praise you and thank you,  
to hear your Word of comfort and grace.  
Be with us as we celebrate this worship service.  
In Christ's name we pray.  
**Amen.**

### **Psalm 46**

*The psalm may be read responsively. In German churches, they follow the tradition of concluding the Psalm with the Gloria Patri: "Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen."*

### **Kyrie**

*Speak or sing the Kyrie in Greek, English, and German.*

Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy. Herr, erbarme dich.  
Christe eleison. Christ, have mercy. Christe, erbarme dich.  
Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy on us. Herr, erbarm dich über uns

## **Hymn of Praise**

All Glory Be to God on High

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship pew edition page 159 or hymn 410.*

## **Prayers**

God, our Father, we are dependent on your love and faithfulness. We have nothing from ourselves, but all from you. Help us to trust alone in your grace and to overcome all that weigh us down. This we pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and gives us life, now and forever. Amen.

*The following could be included in the petitions:*

For the churches and Christians in Lutherstadt Wittenberg that they would keep steadfast in their faith and witness and be encouraged to share the Good News with the many who are outside the Church.

For the churches in Germany, that they would face the challenges of secularism and indifference with bold proclamation, that they would find the resources so that this proclamation can find life in villages, towns and cities.

For the work of the Center, our German colleague, Renate Skirl, our volunteers who come from the States, our youthful German volunteers.

For the family of Jean and Steve, separated by miles, they may be connected by God's love and their love for one another; be with their sons and their families: Rob and Emily and Audrey; Tim and Melissa.

## **Lord's Prayer**

*You might try the German version of the Lord's Prayer:*

Vater Unser im Himmel,  
Geheiligt werde dein Name,  
Dein Reich komme,  
Dein Wille geschehe,  
wie im Himmel so auf Erden.  
Unser tägliches Brot gib uns heute.  
Und vergib uns unsere Schuld,  
wie auch wir vergeben unseren Schuldigern.  
Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung,  
sondern erlöse uns von dem Bösen.  
Denn dein ist das Reich

und die Kraft und die Herrlichkeit in Ewigkeit. Amen.

## Hymn Suggestions

O Sacred Head Now Wounded

ELW 351 and LBW 117

*This is one of many well-known hymns by German songwriter Paul Gerhardt – in the German hymnal it has 10 verses. It has the same meter as another well-known Gerhardt hymn, O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (ELW 241, LBW 23)– an Advent hymn. When this Advent hymn is sung to the Lenten tune, it makes a stunning connection between the two penitential seasons. You might try singing one or two verses of O Lord, How Shall I Meet You to the “Herzlich Tut Mich Verlangen” (ELW 351, LBW 117) tune.*

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

ELW 340 and LBW 105

*This lesser known Paul Gerhardt hymn is part of the German Lenten repertoire.*

Ah, Holy Jesus

ELW 349 and LBW 123

*Johann Herrmann was a contemporary of Paul Gerhardt, who also lived through the destructive Thirty Years’ War. Like Gerhardt, many of his hymns were put to music by Johann Crüger.*

Out of the Depths I Cry to You

ELW 600 and LBW 295

*This is one of the hymns (words and music) written by Martin Luther based on one of the Penitential Psalms, Psalm 130.*

Now the Green Blade Rises

ELW 379 and LBW 148

This “Easter hymn” is found in the Lenten section of the German hymnal. It is not an original German hymn – but comes to the German worship tradition through France and England.

### Additional Luther Hymns

In Peace and Joy I Now Depart

ELW 440

I Leave, as You Have Promised

LBW 349

*This hymn by Luther is based on the Song of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32, the Nunc Dimittus) and has a new and more complete translation in the ELW.*

Dear Christians, One and All

ELW 594 and LBW 299

*Here in song form is the “Gospel according to Luther”. This popular German hymn sets forth the “wonders God has done” in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.*

Our Father, God in Heaven Above  
ELW 746 or 747

*Luther’s paraphrase and elaboration of the Lord’s Prayer is not found in the LBW. The hymn provides a wonderful meditation on the basic prayer our Lord taught us.*

### Evening Hymns

Now Rest Beneath Night’s Shadow  
ELW 568 and LBW 282

*This beloved hymn of Paul Gerhardt has provided comfort to many as they gather to grieve and commend their loved ones to God eternal rest.*

Abide With Me  
ELW 629 and LBW 272

*This is not an originally German hymn but this English hymn has found its place in the hearts and hymnal of German Christians. It has become a special song for the Castle Church choir, often sung as the last piece of the evening, and included in the worship services and concert programs.*