

# Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

## On Useful Resources



August 3, 2025



**CHRIST** Lutheran Church

*"Our hope in Jesus is an anchor for the soul."* Hebrews 6:19

500 Park Street | West Salem, WI 54669 | 608-467-5817

**Pastor** Steve Olson

**Organist** Amy Cook

**Worship Hosts:**  
Sunday 8:00 AM: Todd & Sue Greene / John & Tina Willinger  
Sunday 9:30 AM: Aaron & Liz Horstman Family  
Monday 6:30 PM: Mark Miller

# Mission Statement

With the help of the Triune God, our mission is to gladly nurture the spiritual and physical needs of our congregation, to train our children in the knowledge of the Lord, to reach out to others with the saving message of Jesus' love and forgiveness.

**Welcome!** Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

## **SERIES THEME: UNDIVIDED ATTENTION**

We live in a world where a thousand things are competing for our attention. There is the real danger that we focus on the frivolous and ignore the indispensable. As a result, we often talk about the importance of being "free from distraction." But the stakes are higher than that. We need to be freed from distraction. We need the spiritual power to give our undivided attention to that which truly makes a difference, not only here and now, but also in eternity. A life focused on all the right things is only possible because of a Savior who is always focused on us. On the Day of Pentecost, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to give his followers power and focus. Still today, through his Word, Jesus grants those gifts to his disciples.

We have come to the second half of the Church Year. In the first half, we focused on the life of Christ. In this second half, we turn our attention to all the teachings of Christ. May we give them our undivided attention.

Our worship follows this pattern.

- † Seventh Sunday after Pentecost: On the Privilege and Purpose of Prayer
- † **Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: On Useful Resources**
- † Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: On Heavenly Treasure

## **THEME OF THE DAY: ON USEFUL RESOURCES**

Money. Possessions. Perhaps more than anything else, those things have the power to turn our attention away from what is truly important. It is no surprise, therefore, that Jesus frequently teaches about wealth. Christ wants us to understand that it is our heavenly Father who provides us with those useful resources. But we need to know why our Father gives them: what they are useful for, and what they are not useful for. Those resources cannot give purpose or meaning to our lives on earth. They cannot give us security for life after this earth. However, the blessings God provides can bring some joy to our lives. More importantly, our wealth is extremely useful in our efforts to serve God and others. This week let us give our undivided attention to what Christ says about the useful resources our gracious Father provides to us.

# THE SERVICE (SETTING ONE) PG. 154

## 750 We Give Thee but Thine Own

CW 750

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, abr.  
Tune: William H. Monk, 1823-1889  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

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

## Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.  
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with his innocent suffering and death.  
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

# Glory Be to God on High

CW 157

The musical score is written for two voices, Treble and Bass, in a key of one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily in the Treble clef, with the Bass clef providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words split across lines. The score consists of six systems of two staves each.

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,

we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,

God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.

You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.

For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the

Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## The Word

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

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures you have stored up for us in heaven that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of your grace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Ecclesiastes 1:1-2,12-14; 2:18-26*

<sup>1</sup>The words of Ecclesiastes, David's son, king in Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>“Nothing but vapor,” Ecclesiastes said. “Totally vapor. Everything is just vapor that vanishes.”

<sup>12</sup>I, Ecclesiastes, have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup>I applied my heart to seek out and explore with wisdom everything done under the sky. (What a burdensome task God has given the children of Adam to keep them busy!) <sup>14</sup>I have seen all the actions done under the sun, and, look, it is all nothing but vapor. It is all chasing the wind.

<sup>18</sup>I also hated all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard under the sun, since I must leave it all to the man who comes after me. <sup>19</sup>And who knows—will he be wise, or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard and so wisely, under the sun. This too is vapor that vanishes.

<sup>20</sup>So I changed my course, and my heart began to despair over all my hard work at which I worked so hard under the sun. <sup>21</sup>Sure, there may be a man who has worked hard—wisely, aptly, and skillfully. But he must hand over whatever he accumulated by all his hard work to a man who has not worked hard for it. This too is vapor. It's so unfair! <sup>22</sup>For what

does a man gain through all his hard work, through all the turmoil in his heart, as he works so hard under the sun?

<sup>23</sup>Pain fills all his days. His occupation is frustration. Even at night his heart does not rest. This too is vapor.

<sup>24</sup>There is nothing better for a man than to eat and to drink and to find joy in his work. This too, I saw, is from God's hand. <sup>25</sup>For who can eat or enjoy himself apart from him? <sup>26</sup>Yes, God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness to the man whom he considers good, but to the person who goes on sinning God gives the task of gathering and collecting, but only so that he can give it all to a person whom God considers good. This too is vapor, nothing but chasing wind.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## 90 Fill Us with Your Love, O Lord

*Psalm 90*

### *Refrain*

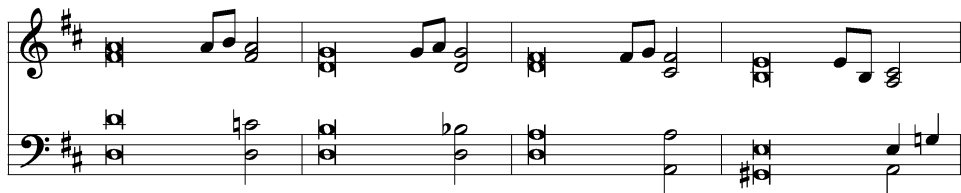


Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!



Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

### *Tone*



Lord, you have been our / dwelling place  
throughout all gener- / ations.



Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the / whole  
world,

from everlasting to everlasting / you are God.

You turn people / back to dust,

saying, “Return to dust, you / mortals.”

A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has / just gone by,  
or like a watch / in the night. *Refrain*

Teach us to number / our days,

that we may gain a heart of / wisdom.

May the favor of the Lord our God / rest on us;

establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work /  
of our hands.

**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. *Refrain***

Text: Mark Haas, alt.    Tune: Mark Haas, alt.    Setting: Mark Haas, alt.  
Music: © 2015 Mark Haas. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 717684

## **Second Reading**

*Colossians 3:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, because you were raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>So put to death whatever is worldly in you: sexual immorality, uncleanness, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup>It is because of these things that the wrath of God is coming on the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup>You too once walked in these things, when you were living in them.

<sup>8</sup>But now, you too are to rid yourselves of all of these: wrath, anger, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to each other since you have put off the old self with its practices, <sup>10</sup>and put on the new self, which is continually being renewed in knowledge, according to the image of its Creator. <sup>11</sup>Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcision or uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but rather Christ is all and is in all.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

*Matthew 6:20,21*



*Refrain*

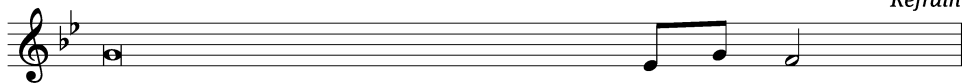


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Tone*



Store up for yourselves treasures in heav - en,



for where your treasure is, there your heart will be al - so.

Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 717684

## Gospel

*Luke 12:13–21*

<sup>13</sup>Someone from the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup>But Jesus said to him, “Man, who appointed me to be a judge or an arbitrator over you?”

<sup>15</sup>Then he said to them, “Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because a man's life is not measured by how many possessions he has.”

<sup>16</sup>He told them a parable: “The land of a certain rich man produced very well. <sup>17</sup>He was thinking to himself, ‘What will I do, because I do not have anywhere to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup>He said, ‘This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will tell my soul, “Soul, you have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy. Eat, drink, and be merry.”’

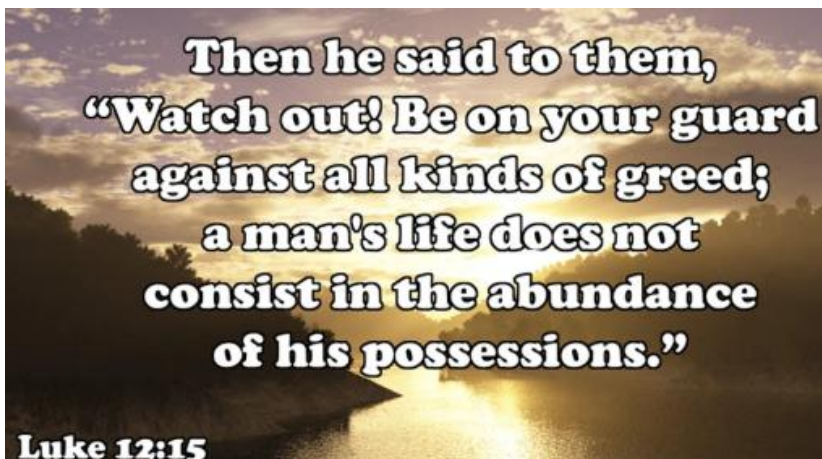
<sup>20</sup>“But God said to him, ‘You fool, this night your soul will be demanded from you. Now who will get what you have prepared?’

<sup>21</sup>“That is how it will be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*



## 820 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

CW 820



- 1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
soon bears us all 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, abr., alt. Tune: William Croft, 1678–1727 Text and tune: Public domain

**The Life Plan of a Fool**

1. Store up wealth for yourself
2. Hope for a life of ease and pleasure
3. Ignore God in all your plans

*Stand*

**Nicene Creed**

CW 162

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,**

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**  
**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**  
**We look for the resurrection of the dead**  
**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

**Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.**

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

**Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

**Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.**

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

**Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.**

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [*especially . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition*]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

**Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors, [*especially . . . here name the person*]. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

**Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.**

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

**Amen.**

**Offering**

*Please use this opportunity to fill in the Friendship Register. Thank you  
for worshipping with us today!*

## The Sacrament

*Stand*

**Preface**

CW 165

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**


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

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

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

### **Holy, Holy, Holy**

CW 167



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na, ho -  
san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,  
bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169

The musical score is written on five staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined. The score ends with a double bar line.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men.

*Be seated*

## Distribution

**Thank you for Respecting our Communion Practice.** The Bible teaches that partaking of the body and blood of Christ is a special assurance of forgiveness to penitent believers in Christ. It is also an expression of our oneness in the doctrines we teach and believe. Christ wants us to administer this blessed sacrament responsibly. We would ask that if you are not a communicant member of Christ Lutheran and desire the sacrament, please kindly speak with one of the pastors before the service. Pamphlets are available in the narthex which explain our communion practice according to the Holy Scriptures.



# 807 All Depends on Our Possessing

CW 807



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant  
 2 He who to this day has fed me and to man - y  
 3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting o - ver tri - fles  
 4 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope a - new my



grace and bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.  
 joys has led me is and ev - er shall be mine.  
 and in get - ting things that have no sol - id ground.  
 heart will quick - en; all my long - ing shall be stilled.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en in their God are  
 He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, he who dai - ly  
 I shall strive to win a trea - sure that will bring me  
 To his lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der soul and bod - y



not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.  
 guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.  
 last - ing plea - sure and that now is sel - dom found.  
 I sur - ren - der, for on God a - lone I build.

- 5 Well he knows what best to grant me;  
 all the longing hopes that haunt me,  
 joy and sorrow, have their day.  
 I shall doubt his wisdom never;  
 as God wills, so be it ever;  
 I commit to him my way.
- 6 If my days on earth he lengthen,  
 he my weary soul will strengthen;  
 all my trust in him I place.  
 Earthly wealth is not abiding,  
 like a stream away is gliding;  
 safe I anchor in his grace.

Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, Nürnberg, 1676; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645–1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

## Song of Simeon

CW 951

Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles  
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Song of Simeon'. It consists of five staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.' The music ends with a double bar line.

Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev.    Tune: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, rev. James E. Engel, 1925–1989  
Text and tune: Public domain

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

**Amen.**

## 717 What Is the World to Me

CW 717



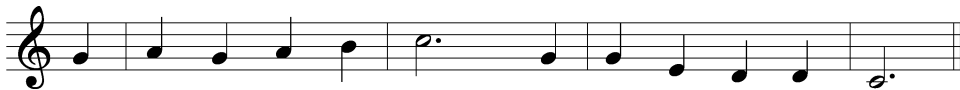
1 What is the world to me with all its vaunt-ed plea - sure  
2 The world seeks af - ter wealth and all that mon - ey of - fers,  
3 The world is like a cloud and like a va - por fleet - ing,  
4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



when you and you a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!  
yet nev - er is con - tent though gold should fill its cof - fers.  
a shad - ow that de - clines, swift to its end re - treat - ing.  
my life, my health, my wealth, my friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, my soul's de - light shall be;  
I have a high - er good, con - tent with it I'll be;  
My Je - sus shall re - main, though all things fade and flee,  
my joy, my crown, my all, my bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



you are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!  
my Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!  
my ev - er - last - ing rock. What is the world to me!  
Once more then I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg M. Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732, abr.; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701

Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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