



#5160

MORNING DEVOTION

Leader: We begin our devotion this morning in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

In our first hymn, note that we compare Jesus to some of the beauties of nature, many of which we are enjoying today. But He outshines them all!!

Beautiful Savior

Beautiful Savior, King of Creation, Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, Truly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration Now and forevermore be thine!

(LW 507; TLH 657)

Leader: In our next song of praise, notice how it speaks of our rejoicing with all the saints "till dawns the golden day."

Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng

Rejoice, O pilgrim throng! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
Your festal banner wave on high, The cross of Christ your king.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

With all the angel choirs, With all the saints on earth
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss, True rapture, noblest mirth.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

Still lift your standard high, Still march in firm array,
As pilgrims through the darkness wend Till dawns the golden day.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

(LW 455)

Leader: Good Morning! How many times have we said this? We probably greeted each other this morning with “Good Morning.” And so it is! Do you hear birds chirping? Do you see mist rising off the lake? Does this morning smell fresh and new?

What does the Bible say about mornings?

Reader: *And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and He separated the light from the darkness. God called the light “day” and the darkness He called “night”. And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.* Genesis 1:3-5 NIV

Leader: God, our God, made the first morning. Then, He segmented history into 24-hour periods, each one beginning with a morning. We have just begun another one of those segments and we say, “Good Morning.”

GROUP: **Good Morning!**

Leader: Indeed God’s people not only noticed mornings, but they included them in their prayers. Listen to the words of Isaiah and David.

Reader: *O Lord, be gracious to us; we long for you. Be our strength every morning, our salvation in time of distress.* Isaiah 33:2 NIV

Reader: *In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before You and wait in expectation.* Psalm 5:3 NIV

Leader: Perhaps the most well-known Scripture about mornings is the one from Jeremiah where he speaks about God’s great love.

Reader: Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.
Lamentations 2:22-23 NIV

Leader: There is another reason why we, as God’s people, can say, “Good Morning!” We know His compassions. His mercies are NEW every morning! Great *is* His faithfulness! Let’s recall some of the mornings of the past.

One morning God sent rain and for 39 more mornings, God preserved Noah and his family during the rain and flood.

GROUP: **Lord, Your compassions never fail. They are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness!**

- Leader:** The morning dawned on the day when David and God went out to meet Goliath.
- GROUP:** **Lord, Your compassions never fail. They are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness!**
- Leader:** The morning dawned on the day when Queen Esther had to risk her life on behalf of her nation.
- GROUP:** **Lord, Your compassions never fail. They are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness!**
- Leader:** The morning came on the day when Daniel refused to obey an idolatrous law and he was sent to meet the lions.
- GROUP:** **Lord, Your compassions never fail. They are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness!**
- Leader:** The morning began the day on which the Messiah was born in Bethlehem.
- GROUP:** **Lord, Your compassions never fail. They are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness!**
- Leader:** *On the first day of the week, very early in the morning... the tomb was found empty. "He is not here. He has risen!"* Luke 24:1, 6a NIV
- GROUP:** **We rejoice that Your faithfulness to Your people made our salvation complete!**
- Leader:** On the morning of October 31, 1517, God moved Martin Luther to stand up for the truth of God's Word and the Reformation was begun.
- GROUP:** **Thank You, Lord, for preserving that Word to this very day.**
- Leader:** On a certain morning, the day began when our parents rejoiced over our births.
- GROUP:** **Thank You, Lord, for Your blessings, Your mercies, Your love, from (your birthday) until now. Great is Your faithfulness!**
- Leader:** All of us, dear sisters in Christ, indeed have special reason for greeting each morning with "Good Morning." We have Someone Special in our corner each morning. Listen to the words recorded by St. John.
- Reader:** *"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I*

am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”

Revelation 22:16

Leader: Yes, because of our bright Morning Star, we can meet the challenges of each day. As we sang earlier, “Till dawns the golden day.” Yes, there will come a morning of the day appointed for each of us to go and be with our Savior in the mansions He has prepared for us. “... *he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*” -Philippians 1:6 NIV

GROUP: **Thank You, bright Morning Star, for the sure promise of life with You eternally. Thank You for Your great compassions which have been new each day since the beginning of time and which will continue to be new for each of us until the end of our own time on earth. Great is Your faithfulness! Keep us faithful as You have been and will continue to be to us. Amen.**

Suggested Closing Hymn: *Great is Thy Faithfulness* (Hymnal Supplement 98 #899)

MORNING DEVOTION--- -Written by Edna Kloeber
Published by Lutheran Women’s Missionary League
May 2000