

## Welcome to St Matthew!

If you have any prayer requests and wish them to be included in today's prayers, **please write them on a pink prayer request slip** found in the pew racks and hand them to the usher as he collects the offering plates.

*Our Mission is to be the living evidence of the mercies of Christ  
John 13:34-35*



### Participation in Holy Communion

With respect to the gravity of the benefits received with the bread and wine, and to your spiritual health (1 Cor 11:27-29) we invite to the Lord's Table those who make this confession:

- ❖ *I acknowledge that I am a sinner, and desire Christ's forgiveness.*
- ❖ *believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan and death.*
- ❖ *I believe that the Risen Christ is truly present in the Sacrament - in, with, and under the bread and wine that I receive for the forgiveness of my sins. (Matthew 26:26-28)*
- ❖ *I do intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to turn from my sins.*
- ❖ *I resolve to dedicate myself to the service of my Lord in His Body, the Church, by regular worship, sacrificial giving and thankful living.*

Visitors who wish to commune at St Matthew are asked to speak with the pastor before doing so. Non-alcoholic wine is the light colored wine offered in the center portion of the individual cup trays.

If you do not wish to participate in Communion, we invite you to spend the time in silent meditation or prayer. You may be interested in meditating on Psalm 6, 23, 32, 46, 51, or 90 which can be found in the either the Bibles or the Hymnals in the pew racks in front of you.

## Welcoming

### 411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain

In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,  
And show me the way to the Father.

3

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race, We shall know the joy of Jesus.

### Invocation/ Confession and Absolution

**[P]** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**[C]** Amen.

**[P]** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**[C]** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**[P]** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**[C]** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that

**we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**Psalm 68:3-6, 18b-21 Sung to the tune: *No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet***

3But may the righteous ones be glad: let them before God's sight  
be joyful; yes, let them rejoice in Him with all their might.  
4Sing praise to God, to His name sing; extol Him with your voice,  
Who rides on clouds—His name's the LORD—before Him now rejoice.

5A father to the fatherless is God who sees their face;  
Defender of the widow is God in His holy place.  
6God sets the lonely in fam'lies, frees pris'ners with His hand,  
They sing; but the rebellious ones live in a sun-scorched land.

And You received such gifts from men, e'en from those who rebel;  
That You, O LORD God, even there, in their midst You might dwell.  
19Bless'd be the Lord, and praise to Him, who is our Savior sure,  
Who daily bears our burdens and does save us evermore.

20For our God is a God who saves; our lives are in His hand.  
And from the Sovereign LORD does come escape from death's strong band.  
21But surely God will crush the head of those who are His foes—  
The hairy crowns of those in whom great sin persists and grows.

**Prayer of the Day**

**P** Almighty God, open our eyes to behold Your great love toward us in the humility of Your Son and to know Him in the least ones, that we may serve You by serving our neighbors, until You gather us together to rejoice as brothers and sisters in Your everlasting kingdom; through the same Jesus

Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### **Old Testament Reading**

*1 Samuel 16:4–13*

<sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” <sup>5</sup>And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is before him.” <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”

<sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>9</sup>Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>10</sup>And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen these.” <sup>11</sup>Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.” <sup>12</sup>And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.” <sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

### **Epistle**

*1 Corinthians 12:12–26*

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup>For the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make

it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? <sup>18</sup>But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup>If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

<sup>21</sup>The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup>and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, <sup>24</sup>which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, <sup>25</sup>that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

### Alleluia

LSB 190



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:31–34, 44

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>31</sup>He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. <sup>32</sup>It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

<sup>33</sup>He told them another parable. “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.”

<sup>34</sup>All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable.

<sup>44</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Nicene Creed

**I believe** (*Rom 10:8-10; 1 John 4:15; Heb 11:6*)

**in one God,** (*Deut 6:4, 1 Cor 8:4-6; John 10:30; Eph 4:4-6; Matt. 28:19*)

**the Father Almighty,** (*Mt 6:9; Ex 6:2-3; Rev 1:8, 4:8*)

**Maker of heaven and earth,** (*Gen 1:1; Ex 20:11; Ps 33:6-7*)

**and of all things visible and invisible** (*Col 1:15-16*).

**And in one Lord, Jesus Christ,** (*John 10:30; Rom 10:9; Col 2:6; Acts 10:36; Rev 22:20; Matt. 28:19*)

**the only-begotten Son of God,** (*Mt 14:33; 16:16; John 3:16; 1 John 4:15*)

**begotten of His Father before all worlds,** (*John 1:2; 1:18; 3:16; 1 John 4:9*)

**God of God, Light of Light,** (*Ps 27:1; John 8:12, 12:35-36; 1 John 1:5-7; Mt 17:2, 5*)

**Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made,** (*John 5:18, 8:58, 17:1-5*)

**being of one substance with the Father,** (*John 10:30*)

**by Whom all things were made;** (*John 1:3 [Gen 1:3, 6, 9, 14, 20, 24, 26; Ps 33:6]; Heb 1:1-2; Col 1:16*)

**Who for us men and for our salvation** (*Mt 1:21; 1 Tim 2:3-6; 1 John 1:8-10, 4:9; Is 53:11*)

**came down from heaven** (*John 3:31; 6:33-35; Is 12:2*)

**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,** (*Luke 1:35, Mt 1:16; Is 7:14*)

**and was made man;** (*John 1:14*)

**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate** (*Mt 27:22-26; 1 Cor 15:3-5; Gal 6:14; Is 53:4-6*).

**He suffered and was buried** (*Mt 27:50-60 [Is 53:9]; Mk 8:31; Luke 23:53*).

**And the third day**

**He rose again according to the Scriptures;** (*Mt 28:5; Luke 24:1-12; Rom 10:9; 1 Cor 15:3-5*)

**and ascended into heaven,** (*Acts 1:9-11; Luke 24:51*)

**and sits at the right hand of the Father.** (*Mk 16:19; Acts 7:55-56*)

**And He shall come again with glory** (*Mt 24:27, 25:31; Acts 1:11; Rev 22:20*)

**to judge both the living and the dead;** (*Acts 10:42 [4:12]; 2 Tim 4:1 [Rom 1:16-17, 3:21-26, Gal 2:21]*)

**whose kingdom shall have no end** (*Luke 1:33 [1 Cor 15:57]*).

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,** (*Gen 1:2; John 14:26; 1 Tim 1:14; Eph 1:13-14; Matt. 28:19*)

**the Lord and Giver of Life,** (*Rom 8:2-4; 2 Cor 2:6*)

**Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,** (*John 15:26; Rom 8:9-11*)

**Who with the Father and the Son**

**together is worshiped and glorified,** (*Mt 3:16-17; Eph 4:4-6*)  
**Who spoke by the Prophets.** (*2 Pet 1:21; 2 Tim 3:16; Ezek 11:5*)  
**And I believe in one holy Christian and Apostolic Church.** (*Eph 2:19-22, 5:26-27; 1 Pet 2:9*)  
**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,** (*Mk 16:16; 1 Pet 3:21; Acts 2:38; Titus 3:4-7*)  
**and I look for the resurrection of the dead** (*John 11:23-27; Rom 6:5; 1 Cor 15:12-58*)  
**and the life of the world to come** (*Mt 25:34; Mk 10:29-30; John 11:25-26; Rev 21:1-7*).  
**Amen** (*Ps 106:48; Rev 22:20*).

## **842 Son of God, Eternal Savior**

1

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race,  
You our Head, who, throned in glory, For Your own will ever plead:  
Fill us with Your love and pity, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

2

As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.  
Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give.  
Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;  
We but stewards of Your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.

3

Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;  
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.  
By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain,  
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.

4

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race:  
By Your praying, by Your willing That Your people should be one,  
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition: Here on earth Your will be done.

## **Sermon**

## **Prayers**

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For the Holy Christian Church, gathered here and scattered throughout the world, that by the grace of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we may believe and rejoice that He creates, redeems, and calls every human life as His own precious treasure, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our Christian witness, that this Gospel of Jesus Christ may motivate us to speak His truth and show His love to every neighbor, no matter what age, appearance, or ability, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For this land and its authorities, that God grant them wisdom, nobility, and responsibility to safeguard in policy and practice the sanctity of every member of our race, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all medical professionals, that our Savior lend them His own courage and compassion to deliver relief and health, and to reject every temptation to use death as a solution to suffering, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those scheduled for abortion, those experiencing surprise pregnancies, those awaiting adoption, those enduring chronic pain, and those approaching death, that our Heavenly Father sustain them in their distresses and open our hearts and hands to embrace, accompany, and encourage them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who permit, promote, and participate in abortion, physician-assisted suicide, and other violences against life, and especially for those whose hearts have been broken by the abortion of their own children, that God forgive them and turn them from their sin to receive His healing, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**



**P** For our brothers and sisters suffering injuries, illnesses, or disabilities (especially...), that the good Lord visit them in their affliction through the fellowship of His body, preserve their life and their faith, and grant both quick remedy and complete recovery, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For any among us who celebrate gifts of life and family, (especially *[names]* on their birthdays and *[names]* on their anniversaries), that they exult with us in these blessings as tokens of forgiveness in Christ Jesus and foretastes of resurrection to everlasting life in the new creation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### Offertory:



**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

## **Preface & Proper Preface**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## **Holy, Holy, Holy**

*Isaiah 6:4; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy 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 that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### **The Words of Our Lord**

#### **Proclamation of Christ**

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

#### **Lord's Prayer**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**C** 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.

### Peace of the Lord

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

### Lamb of God

*John 1:29*

**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

### 537 Beautiful Savior

1

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.

2

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.

3

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.

4

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

### **570 Just as I Am, without One Plea**

1

Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

2

Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3

Just as I am, though tossed about With many\_a conflict, many\_a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6

Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

### **Post- Communion Blessing**

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
 cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
 peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

### Post-Communion Thanksgiving

**P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## **Benediction**

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

## **849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness**

1

Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;  
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev'ry dread disease,  
Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

2

Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;  
Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand;  
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

3

Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

## **Acknowledgment**

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Abortion acts like some persons are invisible.  
Assisted suicide treats some persons as invisible.



It says they don't have enough size to matter.  
It says they don't have adequate skills to matter.  
It says they don't have the right circumstances to matter.  
It tempts us to use death as a solution.  
It tells us we shouldn't have to look at them anymore.

If our unborn neighbor or the elderly one seems invisible, if the persons with disabilities feel invisible, doesn't anyone wonder why? Their ages don't make them invisible. Their appearances don't make their humanity invisible. Their inabilities don't make their sanctity invisible. Pretty and popular are just comparisons. Productive and profitable are only perceptions. None of these can impart humanity, and none of them can deprive someone of it.

Humanity comes from what we are and not from what we do. And just because it sometimes goes unnoticed doesn't mean it's absent. No person's preciousness depends on us detecting it. It isn't that the worth and purpose of the least of these are so little we cannot calculate them. It's that human worth and purpose are too great for us to comprehend.

It's not just her body, her choice.  
It's not just his problem, his fault.  
Your body belongs to the Almighty Father who made it.  
Their body belongs also to the Incarnate Son who redeemed it.  
Each body belongs also to the Holy Spirit who calls it His temple and treasure.  
This is My body, says the Savior Jesus Christ.  
This is My beloved son and My beloved daughter, says the Lord our God.  
This life, embryo or aged, dying or disabled, is also your privilege and my responsibility.  
Humanity isn't made up of individuals but of indispensables.  
We are connected. We are community. We are one body. We need each other.  
We have each other. None lives to himself alone, and none dies to himself alone.  
If one member suffers, all suffer together.  
We can do this, and we will rejoice!