



HYMN OF THE MONTH

JULY 2025

TRIUNE GOD, BE THOU OUR STAY | LSB 505



Triune God, Be Thou Our Stay is an ancient hymn written for processions and pilgrimages. Over time the hymn included prayers to Mary and many of the saints. Martin Luther kept the hymn but redirected our prayers solely to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Luther also reminded us that all of our life is a pilgrimage. We don't find God on long pilgrimages to "holy" sites. Rather, we find Him where He promises to be found — in His Word, His Sacraments, and the assembly of believers. Our "pilgrimages" include going to work, loving our colleagues, preparing supper for our families, driving to church, and even mowing the lawn.

In other words, we walk with Jesus in the ordinary moments of life, yet our days are often filled with trials and suffering. In this hymn, we sing and pray to our Creator, our Redeemer, and our Sanctifier. We pray for what He has promised to give. So we sing:

Amen, amen! This be done; So sing we, "Alleluia!"

***Triune God, be Thou our stay;
God the Father, be our stay;
Jesus Christ, be Thou our stay;
Holy Spirit, be our stay;***

***Be Thou our stay;
O let us perish never!
Cleanse us from our sins, we pray,
And grant us life forever.***

To this our Lord says, "Yes."

"In You, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in Your righteousness deliver me! Incline Your ear to me; rescue me speedily! Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me! For You are my rock and my fortress; and for Your name's sake You lead me and guide me" (Psalm 31:1-3).

***Keep us from the evil one;
Uphold our faith most holy,
And let us trust Thee solely
With humble hearts and lowly.***

Jesus taught us to pray, "Deliver us from evil." So we pray the words of the Small Catechism with confidence "that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven." The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit keep promises and answer prayers! (Small Catechism, The Lord's Prayer, seventh petition.)

***Let us put God's armor on,
With all true Christians running
Our heav'nly race and shunning
The devil's wiles and cunning.***

We are all running a heavenly race, and the devil is forever throwing stumbling blocks in the way. So we sing, "Let us put God's armor on." Our Lord has given us a full closet of running gear. Put on truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shoes of the Gospel, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit — which is the Word of God. You will find this "closet" in Ephesians 6:10-18. Jump in — enjoy the clothes.

So we sing:

Amen, amen! This be done; So sing we, "Alleluia!"

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At St. Paul's, the Hymn of the Month is sung in our worship each week. May these reflections, written by congregation member and retired LCMS pastor Rev. Tim Wilkins, enrich your worship and devotional focus. In our school, children sing the Hymn of the Month in Chapel, learn stanzas as memory work, and study the hymn in music classes.