



HYMN OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER 2025

O GOD, O LORD OF HEAVEN AND EARTH | LSB 834



Stanza 1

*O God, O Lord of heav'n and earth,
Thy living finger never wrote
That life should be an aimless mote,
A deathward drift from futile birth.
Thy Word meant life triumphant hurled
In splendor through Thy broken world.
Since light awoke and life began,
Thou hast desired Thy life for man.*

At the moment of creation, we hear God's voice, "Let there be light." We see God's fingers shaping all that was "very good." Then the world turned, and we've been swept along in an aimless mote, drifting to a pointless death. But our Father, in love, hurls His Word through our broken world so that His life might be our life.

Stanza 2

*Our fatal will to equal Thee,
Our rebel will wrought death and night.
We seized and used in prideful spite
Thy wondrous gift of liberty.
We housed us in this house of doom,
Where death had royal scope and room,
Until Thy servant, Prince of Peace,
Breached all its walls for our release.*

How did His beautiful creation spin into a futile rage? We took God's gift of liberty and chose to be equal to God; from then on, death had royal freedom.

Until Jesus came. Until Jesus stepped into the muddy Jordan. *Until Jesus* was laid in a tomb. *Until Jesus* walked out of the tomb. *Until Jesus* set us free.

Stanza 3

*Thou camest to our hall of death,
O Christ, to breathe our poisoned air,
To drink for us the dark despair
That strangled our reluctant breath.
How beautiful the feet that trod
The road that leads us back to God!
How beautiful the feet that ran
To bring the great good news to man!*

Look what Jesus did for us. *He came* to our hall of death. *He breathed* our poisoned air. *He drank* our dark despair. *He ran* to bring the great Good News to us!

Stanza 4

*O Spirit, who didst once restore
Thy Church that it might be again
The bringer of good news to men,
Breathe on Thy cloven Church once more,
That in these gray and latter days
There may be those whose life is praise,
Each life a high doxology
To Father, Son, and unto Thee.*

So now we pray, "Holy Spirit, You breathed life and salvation into Your church. Breathe on us again — fill us — that we may bring Good News to our families, our friends, and our neighbors. Mend all divisions among us. And may our lives be living songs of praise to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit."

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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.