

Sunday Service ~ February 16, 2025

Service for Swansea & Charlestown Presbyterian Church

Welcome & Prayer

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. ² Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. ³ For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods. ⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth & the mountain peaks belong to him. ⁵ The sea is his, for he made it & his hands formed the dry land. ⁶ Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; ⁷ for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

Let's Pray. Sovereign Lord, what a great privilege it is to come into your presence this morning. To be able to sing to the rock of our salvation. To be able to come before you in thanksgiving and to praise you with music and song. To be able to humble ourselves in worship, to pray to our maker & to place ourselves under your sovereign care.

We admit that we don't come to you often enough, and we don't thank you enough, nor are we humble enough, dependent enough, passionate enough. Please forgive us. Forgive us because for everything we have done wrong, whether we have done or said or acted in the wrong way or failed to do, say or act in the right way, that wrongdoing meant that your Son Jesus had to die on the cross to forgive us that sin. So we thank you for Jesus. May he become more and more real to us today as we sing, listen, pray, reflect and commit this time to you now. And we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Song – Behold our God [Behold Our God - \[Official Lyric Video\] - YouTube](#)

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| <p>1. Who has held the oceans in his hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at his voice
All creation rises to rejoice</p> | <p>3. Who has felt the nails upon his hands?
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man
God eternal, humbled to the grave
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign</p> |
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Chorus: Behold our God, seated on his throne
Come, let us adore him
Behold our king, nothing can compare
Come, let us adore him

Chorus

Bridge You will reign forever
(let Your glory fill the Earth) x8

2. Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of his words?
Who can teach, the one who knows all things?
Who can fathom all his wondrous deeds?

Chorus

Chorus

Bible Reading – Matthew 8:18-27 (NIV)

¹⁸ When Jesus saw the crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the other side of the lake. ¹⁹ Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." ²⁰ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." ²¹ Another disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." ²² But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead." ²³ Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. ²⁴ Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. ²⁵ The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" ²⁶ He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

²⁷ *The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"*

Announcements

Focus for Month: Relationship with God. What time do you spend with God each day? Add up in your mind how often you pray, read the word, sing to Him or worship Him? Now compare that to how often you spend time with a loved one or watch sport or play video games or check your social media. Is it enough time you spend with the Lord or do you need to put more time aside just for Him?

SRE Dedication service 23/2/25 from 2pm at New Vine Beaches Church @ Jewell.

Breaking the Silence Training. At this Church we take seriously our responsibilities to provide a safe place for the most vulnerable among us, especially our children. To that end each year provide compulsory training for all those who are involved in this sort of ministry. Once every three years all these people must complete the full training of Breaking the Silence. This year we will be offering this TODAY from 11:30am-1:30pm at the Charlestown Church. If you can't make it you can do it online at

<https://breakingthesilence.org.au/training/online-training-gateway/> For years 2 and 3 there is refresher training which will be held on Sunday 23rd February from 11:30-12 noon. If you don't know if you should do either training, please see Stephen.

Charlestown Redevelopment. This week our tender process ended and the CWG are working through the tenders received with the aim of choosing a preferred tenderer by next weekend. Hopefully this tenderer will be able to start work on our redevelopment in late March. Which means we will then be moving our 9:45 7 6pm services to Charlestown Public School.

New City Catechism – Question 7. What does the law of God require? Personal, perfect, and perpetual obedience; that we love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and love our neighbour as ourselves. What God forbids should never be done and what God commands should always be done. *"And [Jesus] said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."* (Matthew 22:37-40)

Small Groups. Our small groups are starting back again, so why not join one. It is a great place to grow in your faith. Our Church has small groups for men, women, youth and mixed. They meet morning, afternoon and night on every day except Saturdays. So why not consider joining one?

Help Needed. There are lots of jobs that need to be done to make the Church function well but two of the bigger jobs that we need help with are

1. **Meal Roster** – someone to coordinate (not make all of them though!) meals for people in the Church that they need this sort of Christian care.
2. **Breaking the Silence.** Someone to administer the Church's data base to ensure that all those working with children have done their training and have the appropriate government clearances.

Please see Stephen or one of the elders if you can help out.

Upcoming Dates

- Saturday 15th March Women's Paint n Sip
- Saturday 22nd March Working Bee
- Friday 7th March World Day of Prayer (Charlestown Uniting & Caves Beach C3)

Pastoral Prayer

Pray for Nigeria. (Population 229 million, Christians, 107 million). Nigeria is the most violent country in the world to follow Jesus. For Christians whose loved ones have been killed or abducted. That Nigerian leaders will protect Christian citizens and communities. For the millions of Christians and others who have been displaced by violence.

Pray for the Parsons (CMS, Japan): Praise God for new missionaries to reach out to Chinese, North Koreans, and support Japanese returning from abroad to minister to international students in Japan.

Praise : Steven and Sandra are taking home assignment from August to November. Please pray for the planning process so others can cover our responsibilities during this time.

Pray for those affected by the floods in North Queensland. Pray for protection from the rising flood waters, for the rain to stop, for the clean up.

Pray for our young people that as we start up our Kids Church, Junior Youth, IMPACT and SYBS that we might teach our young people the truths of the gospel and model to them faith, hope and love.

Bible Reading – Matthew 8:28-34 (NIV)

²⁸ "When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes,^[a] two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. ²⁹ "What do you want with us, Son of God?" they shouted. "Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?" ³⁰ Some distance from them a large herd of pigs was feeding. ³¹ The demons begged Jesus, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs." ³² He said to them, "Go!" So, they came out and went into the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and died in the water. ³³ Those tending the pigs ran off, went into the town and reported all this, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. ³⁴ Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region."

Song – Hymn of the Ages <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBBSQDRInQ4>

1. All history shall bow before Your throne
Time and space on bended knee shall come
Though kingdoms pass away, Your majesty remains
How great You are, how great must be Your song
2. The Alpha and Omega without end
The everlasting makes this wretch His friend
The angels stand in awe, this beggar heart responds
How great You are, how great must be Your song

Chorus: You're the hymn of the ages
The hope of all the world
You carried our redemption on Your shoulders
You're the anthem of salvation
Jesus, Lord of Lords
Your legacy will echo through the ages

3. Oh, for a countless choir in my lungs
To sing Your praises with a thousand tongues
The purpose in my days, is ever to proclaim
How great You are, and how great must be Your song

Chorus

Bridge: We raise the never-ending song
The greatest song we've ever known
The song of angels, the hymn of ages
Holy is the Lord (Repeat bridge)

Chorus

Sermon – Willing and Able (Stephen T)

Sermon link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oguL6EBQD1M>

Every time I go onto facebook, there are invitations to become friends with people and to follow their stories. So recently there has been a spate of Vanuatu people whom I am being asked to follow because of the connections that I have made recently with people over there. Also, over the last few months classmates from school keep popping up. And of course, facebook is always suggesting many people from our church to follow.

And it is a reasonably easy process to follow someone. You just make them a friend and if they accept that friendship, then automatically you can follow them. You get to see what they are doing. You are able to talk to them about their posts. Its very easy and casual and costs very little. And of course, at any time you can unfollow them.

But it is completely different with Jesus. To follow him means not to be in the audience but to be a participant. Not to be on the outside gaining more information about him but one of the insiders, heading in the same direction as he is going. Not to be the one keeping your options open and being in control of your own destiny but placing yourself completely in his hands and being willing to enjoy the good, the bad and the ugly that is coming his way.

Slide 2

And the call from today's passage is to follow Jesus. Not just to be his friend. Not just to listen to what he has to say. Not just to occasionally worship Him. But to follow him. Really follow him. You see, you can believe in God, but that's not following Jesus. You can come to church, but that is not following Jesus. You can pray to God and read God's word, but that is not following Jesus.

For Jesus is on the way to the cross. And if we are going to follow him, you and I will end up there as well. We will need to pick up our cross & put to death the things that are most important in our lives, to follow him, and that is a radical reshaping of our hopes and dreams, of our relationships and our priorities. It will not just affect our Sunday mornings; it will control what we do and say as well as who we are 24/7 for the rest of our lives.

And you might look back but there is no going back. You might have your doubts at times but you will need to press on despite your doubts & your fears. For Jesus has left heaven, come as a baby, grown into a man, taught us the way to God and then secured our eternal life by dying on the cross and on the third day rising to life. He has the words of eternal life. His is the only way to God. So, if you don't follow Jesus, you are in big, big trouble. But...

Before you jump on the Jesus bandwagon, you really do need to know what you are getting yourself in for. You must begin by counting the cost. You have to know what it means

Slide 3

1. To Follow (Verses 18-22)

*"When Jesus saw the crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the other side of the lake. ¹⁹ Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, "Teacher, **I will follow you wherever you go.**" ²⁰ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."*

Slide 4

At this time Jesus has attracted a crowd, not a massive following but groups of fishermen, outcasts, ex lepers and those he has healed. But no one from the establishment. No one with any status. But here in verse 19, it looks like things are about to change. The tide might be beginning to turn. For as Jesus is about to cross the Sea of Galilee, a teacher of the law came to him and said "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."

He doesn't say, "Jesus, I think that I'm ready to follow You." He says, "I will follow you wherever you go. I am not just willing to cross the lake with you but I am ready to become your disciple." Now this should give

Jesus a measure of respectability. This is a high profile catch. Richard Dawkins recently came out to say he was now a cultural Christian. The swimmer Stephanie Rice has recently given her life to the Lord. I remember when ex Wallaby captain Nick Farr Jones became a believer. These decisions create a real buzz.

But Jesus isn't begging people to become followers, instead he plays hard to get. We might be willing to lower the standards to get others to sign up for our cause but Jesus wants to keep the bar high. And so, he replies, *"Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."*

Slide 5

Following Jesus will involve hardship, have you thought about that? Being my disciples may involve insecurity and homelessness, are you ready for that? If you follow me, you might lose many of the things you currently value, are you willing to do that? But if you follow me, you get Jesus. Is that a deal you are willing to shake on? You see when you follow Jesus you are not doing that to get stuff, or even to keep the stuff you already have, you are following Jesus, to get Jesus.

And that reminds us if we want to follow Jesus today, there is a cost to commitment. Salvation is free. We are saved by God's grace and not by anything we do or give to Him. But once we are saved our only response will be to follow Him. Not just to go where he is going but to know that if we are going with Him that is all that we will ever need.

Slide 6

Now when I go on mission to Vanuatu, I know that I will leave my creature comforts behind for a couple of weeks. The food I like, the family I love, the bed that I am used, the hot showers that I often take for granted but its only two weeks. And its for a good cause. I can do that. Its inconvenient but it's not too hard. But to be homeless? To have no place to lay my head? To end up in the midst of storms as the disciples do in verse 24 and amongst demons and evil as what happens in verse 28? That's a much harder equation.

Slide 7

Now the teacher of the law is a bit too quick to put his hand up to follow Jesus but the next guy seems a bit too slow. ²¹ *"Another disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."* ²² *But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."*

Now that's seems a bit harsh, doesn't it? All he wants to do is give his dad a decent burial. Isn't he honouring his father and mother as the ten commandments tell him he should? Well, in hot climates like Israel you buried your dead very quickly, often on the same day that they died. So, if his father had just died, he wouldn't be out on the roadside with Jesus, he would be at home doing the preparations for his dad. Instead, what this would-be follower is actually saying, is that he is happy to be a follower of Jesus but **not just yet**. Let me complete my family obligations and then I am all yours Jesus. I am not ready just yet but when I tie up a couple of loose ends, I'm will go anywhere for you Jesus.

Slide 8

I found myself in a similar situation in late 1989. I had just spent the last year working as a Chartered Accountant in England and then had spent some time backpacking around Europe before coming back to my job in Sydney to continue to advance my career. When the call to go into the ministry became stronger and stronger. I wrestled with it for about 6 months before finally deciding to put in my resignation and go into theological college.

I went into my big boss's office to tell him, when he caught me off guard. "Great to see you Stephen, I was just about to get in contact with you. We want to offer you a two-year secondment in Singapore. It will involve a promotion, a pay increase, plenty of chances to travel & it's a stepping stone to bigger and better things."

Now I wasn't expecting that. And it put a real cat among the pigeons. But the verse that kept going around and around in my head was the challenge by Jesus *"No-one who puts a hand to the plough & looks back is fit for the Kingdom of God"* (Luke 9:62). Over the coming days I realised if I put my own self advancement before the call of Jesus now, I might find I would do it again and again in the future.

Slide 9

You see discipleship starts now. Following Jesus begins today. Yes, you need to count the cost but when you have done that, you need to pick up your cross & follow Jesus. And those who love parents or kids or homes or work or fun or sport or money or romance more than Jesus are not worthy of Him. Now it is not that these things are bad things but they are just not the best things. Jesus is & so, Jesus must come first. Being a Christian is following Jesus.

We have a political party in Australia called Family First but for the Christian, family can be second but it can't be first. Careers are important but you can't put your job and your financial future before Jesus. Sport, life balance, fun, homes, holidays have their place but the call of Jesus has to come first. He is the one that must set the agenda. His teaching informs our views on everything else. And friends that's really hard. Incredibly hard.

For he wants followers not fans, recruits not spectators, commitment not curiosity. He wants people to know that to follow Jesus is not just a hobby like stamp collecting. Not just an interest like a park run. Not just a club, like a netball club. Following Jesus is about what we are willing to do for our whole life. Starting right here, right now. Talk is cheap. Coming each Sunday is easy peasy, but following Jesus means wherever I lay my hat that's my home.

Slide 10

2. To Follow, then **Do Follow (verses 23-27)**

Now these would-be followers are left behind on the side of the lake but Jesus then gets into the boat *"and his disciples follow him."* They are willing to put him first but they are just about to learn some of the implications of following Jesus because ²⁴*"Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. ²⁵The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!"*

Following Jesus means going straight into the teeth of a very scary storm, even for these professional fishermen. Now the sea of Galilee often gets these sorts of dangerous storms. The hills around the lake act like a sort of gigantic funnel, that can generate catastrophic winds that would easily topple the fishing boats of Jesus' day.

Slide 11

But surely Jesus knew the storm was coming? So why not delay the trip? Or why not redirect the storm so that they are able to get across in relative safety? But if you and I are going to be a follower of Jesus there is no guarantee that we will bypass the storm of life, only the promise that he is with us in the midst of the storms of life. Following Jesus doesn't mean our security is in our ability to cope with whatever life throws at us, it is the confidence that our security lies with the one who can control and direct any storm that comes our way.

Slide 12

But the problem is that Jesus doesn't seem to care about this storm. *"But Jesus was sleeping. ²⁵The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" ²⁶He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. ²⁷The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"*

Notice Jesus doesn't pray to God to stop the storm. He just tells the storm to stop. And it stops. The wind calms down, the waves go calm. For Jesus has the power to still the storm. The wind and the waves obey the very words of Jesus.

Slide 13

There's a famous story of King Canute, the Danish King who ruled England in the 11th century. He was sick of being told he was all powerful so to teach his court a lesson he sat down on the seaside and commanded the waves not to come in and wet him. But of course, the tide did not listen to his voice and soon he was overwhelmed by the incoming water. One historian tells us that from then on, he never wore his crown again, but hung it on a statue of the crucified Christ.

So, without stating the obvious, we don't control the wind and the waves. Even with all our wonderful technology we can't stop the storm from bashing the coastline, causing huge damage and erosion. But Jesus has the power over the natural elements. And if we are following him, we don't avoid the storms of life but we can walk with Jesus throughout the storms of life. Which means we have no need to be afraid & that enables us to walk by faith.

You see faith is not just knowing that Jesus is in control, it is trusting that Jesus is in control. Faith is not just saying that I am willing to follow Jesus, it is when we put our faith into action and actually follow him. Knowing that you will never walk alone.

Slide 14

I was watching a TV special a month or two ago on John Farnham and he was talking about singing to the Australian troops while they were on their tour of duty in East Timor. And they loved hearing all of Farnham's hits "You're the Voice", "Pressure Down" and "A touch of Paradise." But the highlight of the concert and what brought tears to the eyes of these hardened soldiers was when Farnham sang the classic song, "You'll never walk alone."

Slide 15

*"Walk on through the wind. Walk on through the rain. For your dreams be tossed and blown
Walk on, walk on with hope in your heart & you'll never walk alone. You'll never walk alone"*

Knowing that Australia was with them. Backing them. Walking with them meant the world to the troops. And knowing that the one who made the world, the one who runs the world, the one who will one day bring the world to an end is with us and that we will never walk alone helps us in our fears. Helps us in the midst of the storms of life. It helps us to realise I might not have a home here on earth but I have a home with him. I might need to leave families behind at times but because I am part of God's family, God will never leave me behind.

Slide 16

3. To Follow, Do Follow but lastly **No follow (verses 28-34)**

But in our last passage we see that some people will choose not to follow. ²⁸ "When (Jesus) arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. ²⁹ "What do you want with us, Son of God?" they shouted. "Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?"

For Jesus next act he takes his disciples from the storms of life, right into an environment of evil. Two demon possessed men coming from the tombs meet him. And we see what Satan does to people in their grip. He robs them of their sanity and self-control. He fills them with fear. He drives them away from friends and family. In short Satan offers us so much but all he gives to his followers, is misery.

Slide 17

And then at the same time we see what society does for these men in need. They drive them away. They isolate them. Threaten them but have no power to change them. But we also see what Jesus can do for these men. He heals them. He drives away the cause of their complaints. He frees them from Satan's

power. But he also does something that seems to us very strange. He listens to the demons and gives them what they want.

You see the demons recognise that Jesus has power over them. And they know that at the appointed time they will get their just deserts. And they ask for a stay of execution. Instead of being tortured now, they want the chance to have one last hurrah amongst a large herd of pigs. And for some reason Jesus gives them the go ahead. Why is that, do you think?

Well, it shows us the desires of the demons is to hurt and kill and destroy. And it shows us the number of demons in these two men and the power they had in that they can destroy a whole herd of pigs. And it shows us that Jesus is not being merciful to these demons, he is actually judging them and giving them what they deserve. He brings about their destruction in a dramatic and spectacular fashion.

Slide 18

Now with such a spectacular display of power you would think that Jesus will be signing up a number of new recruits. A couple of ex-demoniacs, some pig farmers that are out of a job and whole lot of others convinced that this is who the demons actually see he is, the Son of God. But no. ³⁴ *“Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region.”*

There will be no followers for Jesus from this group of people. Because they are putting pigs before people. Profit before God’s prophet. These people did not praise our Lord Jesus Christ that He had delivered these men from their bondage. These people did not bring any more of their sick to Jesus for healing. They didn’t bring their demon-possessed, their afflicted to Jesus for healing. All they did was ask Him to leave. It is clear from this brief description that these folks care more about their goods and their livelihood than they do for their souls and for the souls of others.

Slide 19

And isn’t that still true of many people today? They are so caught up with their careers, their money, their toys, their sports, their facebook friends that they don’t have the eyes to see who Jesus is and what Jesus wants them to do in response. They are too caught up in the treadmill of life to obtain freedom for this life and the life to come. They are too concerned with pigs and profit over people. And they push Jesus away. They have no intention of following Jesus, instead they continue to follow their own heart’s desire.

But this passage is saying to us, lets forget about everyone else for a moment and think about our own lives. Are we willing to follow Jesus? Are we going to continue to be followers of Jesus? He doesn’t want hangers on. He doesn’t want fans. He wants us to follow. And he doesn’t want our words, he wants our lives. Love so amazing, so divine, demands my life, my soul, my all.

Slide 20

For in the words of German reformer Martin Luther, *“A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing and suffers nothing, is worth nothing.”* Grace is free but Christian’s discipleship will cost you everything. And you need to be willing to count the cost before you put up your hand to follow Jesus.

Slide 21

I love the advertisement about a man sitting in the chair at a tattoo parlour expressing his love to Donna by getting her name tattooed on his arm. But halfway through the procedure he asks the tattoo artist how much will it cost? \$50 is the reply. Wait a second, I only have \$41! The advertisement cuts to the couple on the footpath where Donna is seen storming off, with the guy yelling after her, “I’ll get it fixed.” As the camera zooms into the tattoo which should have read “I love Donna” but instead reads “I love Don.”

Slide 22

If we love Jesus, we don’t just get a tattoo we become his followers. And that might mean heading into the storm of life but we never head into them alone. Jesus walks with us. That might mean have our own brush with the devil and with evil but Jesus is more power than anything we face. That might mean times when

the family comes second, when promotions are passed over. When holidays are cancelled, when sleep is put off and when there is no place to lay your head.

Slide 23

But remember these words of Jesus from Matthew 19, ²⁹ *“everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.”* ³⁰ *“But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.”*

Song – Yet not I but Christ in me

[CityAlight ~ Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me \(Lyrics\) - YouTube](#)

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|--|---|
| <p>1. What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh how strange and divine,
I can sing, "All is mine"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me</p> | <p>3. No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released,
I can sing, "I am free"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me</p> |
| <p>2. The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead
Oh the night has been won,
and I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me</p> | <p>4. With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete,
still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me</p> |

Closing. ²⁶ *He replied, “You of little faith, why are you so afraid?” Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.* ²⁷ *The men were amazed and asked, “What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!” (Matthew 8: 26-27)*