

# David Becomes King

1 Samuel 31 - 2 Samuel 7



## The Story

After a battle with the Philistines, King Saul died. His son Jonathan died too. David, whom God had chosen to be the next king, was sad when he heard the news. He wrote a beautiful song to honor Saul and Jonathan.

Then David asked the Lord what to do. God told him to go to Hebron. The people poured oil on his head to show he was the next king. But he did not rule the whole land of Israel. He only ruled a part called Judah.

Ishbosheth, one of Saul's sons, became king of the rest of Israel. God did not want him to be king. There was a lot of fighting between David's army and Ishbosheth's army, but God was on David's side. David grew stronger and stronger, and Ishbosheth grew weaker and weaker. Then Ishbosheth died.

David could finally be king over the whole land. Oil was poured on him a second time. David wanted to make the city of Jerusalem part of Israel again. He also had to fight the Philistines two times. God helped his army win all these battles. A nearby king sent David wood and builders to make him a nice palace.

The Ark of the Covenant was not in Jerusalem. David decided to bring it there. The ark was a special

chest God told His people to build. It had golden angels on the top, and was kept in the tent where the people worshiped the Lord. Once it was in the city, David sacrificed sheep and oxen. He also danced with all his might to praise the Lord. The people of Israel shouted and played music. There was a big celebration.

David wanted to build a temple for the Lord, but God had Nathan the prophet tell David no. God said David's son, who would be a greater king, would build it. God also said the greatest king would come from David's family and rule forever. This king was Jesus. David prayed to God and thanked Him.

God did great things for David, just as He does for you.

***The Lord richly blessed David as King of Israel.***



## Passages

Revelation 2:10 - Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Matthew 28:20 - Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

*The Lord richly blesses us in our walk of life.*

## Hymn - TLH #391 v. 1

Blessed are the sons of God,  
They are bo't with Christ's own blood;  
They are ransomed from the grave,  
Life eternal they shall have:  
With them numbered may we be  
Here and in eternity!

## Prayer

Dearest Jesus, You are our Savior. You have promised to be with us until the end of the world. Deliver us from our many, many sins. Help us to live our life pleasing to You. Amen.

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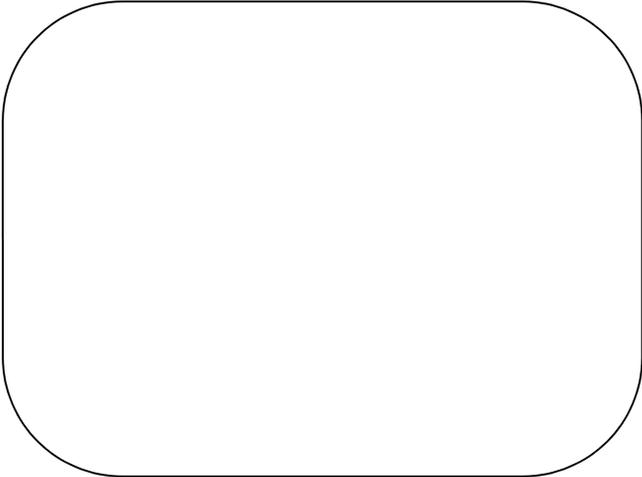
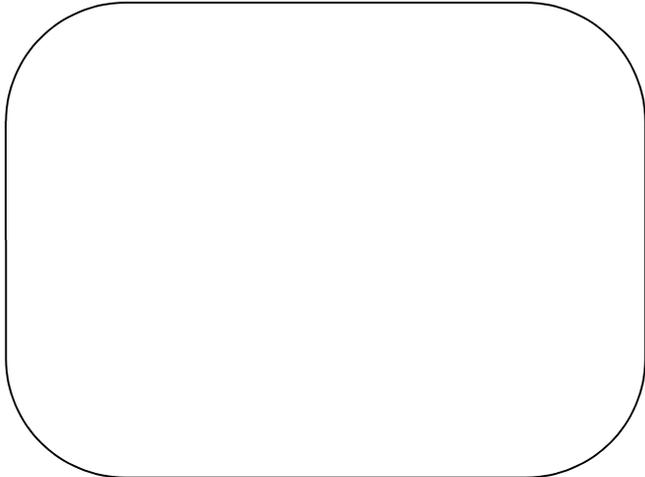
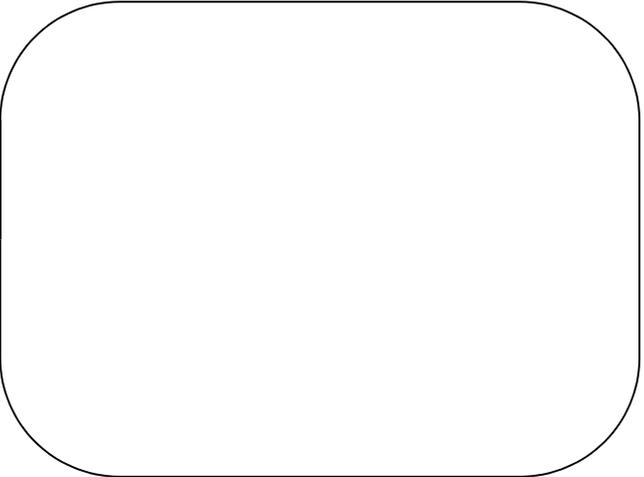
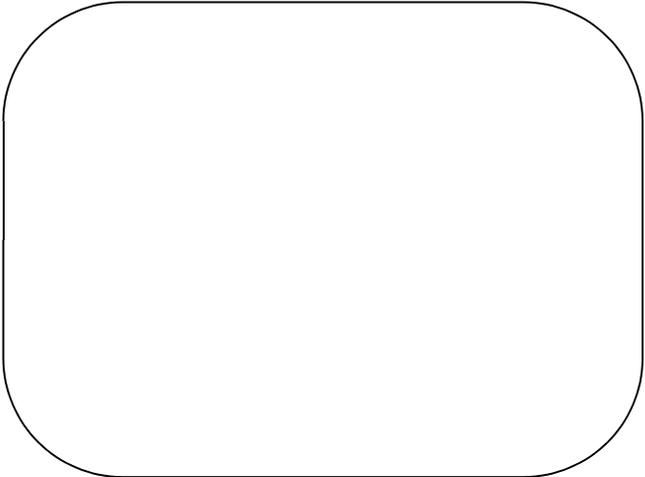
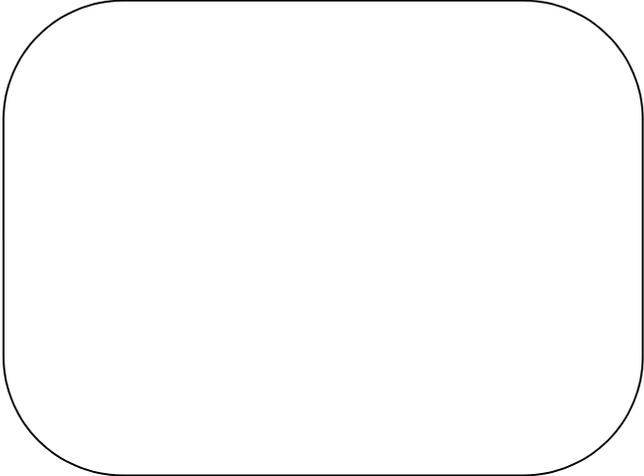
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David wanted to build a temple for the Lord, but God sent Nathan the prophet to tell David not to build the temple. God said David's son, who would be a greater king, would build it. God also said the greatest king would come from David's family and rule forever. This king was Jesus. David prayed to God and thanked Him.

God did great things for David, just as He does for you.

*The Lord richly blessed David as King of Israel.*

**Activity One** - Draw pictures in the boxes to show what happened in the story.



**Activity Two** - God blessed David in many ways. He helped David against enemies, helped him become king, and most of all sent Jesus, our Savior. Cut pictures out of magazines and glue them below the words naming the blessings God has given us.

*The Lord richly blesses us.*

Home

Food



Jesus

School

Family

## Passages

Revelation 2:10b Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Matthew 28:20b Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

## Hymn - TLH #391 v. 1, 3

Blessed are the sons of God,  
They are bought with Christ's own blood;  
They are ransomed from the grave,  
Life eternal they shall have:  
With them numbered may we be  
Here and in eternity!

They are lights upon the earth,  
Children of a heav'nly birth;  
One with God, with Jesus one;  
Glory is in them begun:  
With them numbered may we be  
Here and in eternity!

## Prayer

Dearest Jesus,  
You are our Savior. You have promised to be with us until the end of the world. Deliver us from our many, many sins. Help us to live our life pleasing to You. Amen.

# David Becomes King

1 Samuel 31 - 2 Samuel 7

What does this remind you of? When are times people celebrate? People in our story celebrated for the best reason of all. Think about what that is as you read.

## Prayer

Dear Lord, we ask for your blessing as we study Your Word. Please open our hearts and our minds so we may be able to understand the greatness of Your blessings for David, and each of us. Help us remember especially the blessing of forgiveness because of Jesus. Amen.



## David Becomes King - 1 Samuel 31 - 2 Samuel 7

In a battle with the Philistines near Mt. Gilboa, many of the children of Israel died. Saul was wounded with an arrow, but three of his sons, including Jonathan, were killed. Afraid of falling into enemy hands, Saul asked his armorbearer to kill him, but was refused. Saul fell on his sword and died, and the armorbearer did the same. The children of Israel, seeing their leader was dead, abandoned nearby cities. The Philistines moved into them and hung Saul's and his sons' bodies on a wall. When the Israelites from Jabesh Gilead heard it, they traveled all night to remove the bodies and bury them.

After the battle, a man who'd escaped from the camp of Israel told David what happened. Wanting a reward, he claimed to have answered Saul's cries to be killed. David and his followers tore their clothes and mourned and fasted until evening. The man was executed, at

David's command, for striking down the Lord's anointed king. David wrote a beautiful song to honor Saul and his son Jonathan.

Then David, asking the Lord what to do, was told to go to Hebron. David brought his wives and his followers, and was anointed king over Judah. David commended the men of Jabesh Gilead for their kindness shown to Saul.

Abner, commander of Saul's army, made another of Saul's sons, Ishbosheth, king over the land of Israel. Abner's forces met David's forces, led by Joab, and after fighting all day, Joab won. During the battle, Asahel, Joab's brother, ran after Abner. When he wouldn't turn away, Abner killed him. Only 20 of David's army died that day, while 360 were lost on Ishbosheth's side. A short peace was followed by a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David. But David



grew stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul grew weaker and weaker. During this time, David was also blessed by the birth of many sons.

Abner, angry with Ishbosheth, promised David his loyalty if David would make a treaty with him. David agreed, but asked that his first wife, Michal, be returned to him. Abner also asked the elders of Israel to take David's side. After Abner and David met at a feast, Joab heard of it and called Abner back. Convinced Abner was tricking David and vengeful of Asahel's death, Joab killed him. David, greatly upset when he heard the news, mourned Abner's death. All Judah joined him.

When Saul's son heard that Abner had died in Hebron, he lost heart, and all Israel was troubled. Afterward, two army captains came to Ishbosheth's house and killed him in his bed. Going all night across the plain, they presented his head to David. Not pleased with what they had done, David had them executed.

Then every tribe of Israel swore allegiance to David, and the elders anointed him king over all. In Hebron David reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah. He was thirty years old when he first became king.

Jerusalem, controlled by the Jebusites, was David's next conquest. Not deterred by their taunts that the lame and the blind would defeat him, he took over the city, named it the city of David, and added many buildings. So David went on and became great, and the Lord of Hosts was with him. Hiram king of Tyre sent messengers to David, and cedar trees, and

carpenters and masons. And they built David a house. So David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted His kingdom for His people Israel's sake.

When the Philistines heard David was king, they came ready to fight. Asking the Lord's guidance, David was told the Philistines would be delivered into his hand. After the battle, he said, "The Lord has broken through my enemies before me, like a breakthrough of water." On another occasion, the Lord instructed David to circle the Philistines from behind, and when their marching was heard in the mulberry trees, to advance quickly. "For then the Lord will go out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines," David was told. And David did so, as the Lord commanded him; and he drove back the Philistines from Geba as far as Gezer.

Afterwards, David retrieved the Ark of the Covenant from Baale Judah. On route, a man named Uzzah touched the ark when the oxen pulling it stumbled. Angry at Uzzah's disrespect, the Lord struck him dead. Showing mercy to those who fear Him, the Lord blessed the house of Obed-Edom, where the ark was kept for a time.

After the ark had been carried into Jerusalem six paces, David sacrificed oxen and fatted sheep. He also danced before the Lord with all his might; and David was wearing a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet. When his wife Michal disdained his actions, David said "It was before the Lord...Therefore I will play music before the Lord."



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## Outer Aim - The Lord richly blessed David as King of Israel.

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**What God's Word Tells Us** - List 6 things from Hymn 400 (TLH) that we give to God to thank Him. Then list 6 things David did to thank God for His blessings..

### Our Show of Thanks - TLH 400

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

### David's Show of Thanks

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## Inner Aim - The Lord richly blesses us.

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### Passages

Revelation 2:10 Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Matthew 28:20 Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

### Prayer

Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, You have loved each of us with an everlasting love. You have promised to be with us always even unto the end of the world. Assure us continually of Your grace and blessing in our daily lives. Forgive our many, many sins. Strengthen our weak faith. Help us to live God-pleasing lives more and more. Amen.

# David Becomes King

1 Samuel 31 - 2 Samuel 7

Do we always know which way to go?

Who is the one who knows the direction of our lives?

Why might He allow twists and turns in our lives?



## Prayer

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before the Lord."

During a time of peace granted by the Lord, David wished to build a temple for the ark. "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains," he said to Nathan the prophet. However, the Lord instructed

David through Nathan that his son, who would rule a greater kingdom, would build the temple. The even greater descendent, the "king of kings and lord of lords," would also come from David's line. His kingdom would be eternal. David thanked the Lord for His great mercy and praised God.

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**Outer Aim - The Lord richly blessed David as King of Israel.**

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**What The Story Tells Us** - Put the answers to the questions in the blanks. If a letter has a number below it, put that letter in the blank at the bottom of the page.

1. What wounded Saul? \_ \_ \_ \_  
1
2. What did the man who told David he'd killed Saul want? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
2
3. How did David react? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
3
4. What did David's men do to the man? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
4
5. Who did David turn to? \_ \_ \_ \_  
5
6. What did the people do to David at Hebron? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
6
7. What part of the land did David rule first? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
7
8. Who was crowned Israel's king? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
8
9. What did Joab do to Abner? \_ \_ \_ \_  
9
10. Where did Ishbosheth die? \_ \_ \_  
10
11. Where did David drive the Philistines to? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
11
12. David said his dancing was " \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ the Lord."  
12

WORD BOX
Ishbosheth
before
fasted
kill
execute
arrow
Gezer
Judah
reward
LORD
anoint
bed

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_    \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
11 1 5    3 6 9 10 8    4 6 2 10    1 12    7 8

## What God's Word Tells Us - List 7 twists and turns in David's life that God worked out for good.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

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### Inner Aim - The Lord richly blesses us.

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#### Passages

Revelation 2:10 Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Matthew 28:20 Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

#### Hymn - TLH #391

Blessed are the sons of God,  
They are bought with Christ's own blood;  
They are ransomed from the grave,  
Life eternal they shall have:  
With them numbered may we be  
Here and in eternity!

They are justified by grace;  
They enjoy the Savior's peace;  
All their sins are washed away,  
They shall stand in God's great Day:  
With them numbered may we be  
Here and in eternity!

They are lights upon the earth,  
Children of a heav'nly birth;  
One with God, with Jesus one;  
Glory is in them begun:  
With them numbered may we be  
Here and in eternity!

**Prayer** - Read David's prayer of thanksgiving in 2 Samuel 18-29. Write your own prayer of thanksgiving for some things God did for you.

**STORY**

David Becomes King - I Samuel 31 - II Samuel 7

**TEACHER PRAYER**

Lord, Your holy Word is “a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.” Those who listen to It and treasure It will be richly blessed. Continue to bless my study of Your Word and those who hear It proclaimed by me. “It is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” Amen.

**VOCABULARY****OUTER AIM**

David becomes the second king of Israel.

**INNER AIM**

The Lord richly blessed David and enabled him to become Israel’s greatest king.

**BACKGROUND**

*(Rupprecht, Bible History References, Vol. 1, pp. 306-311)*

David was anointed by Samuel the prophet at about the age of 18. David didn’t become king until he was about 30. For 12 years David waited to become king while Saul sat on the throne. During this time the Lord was preparing David. Saul made David’s life very miserable. Again and again he tried to kill him. David was hunted like an outlaw. During these years of adversity, the Lord strengthened David spiritually. During these years David wrote some of his greatest, and most beautiful psalms. With the Lord’s blessing, he became one of the best kings Israel ever had.

I Samuel 31 (The tragic end of Saul and his sons)

The Philistines defeated the army of Israel near Mt. Gilboa. They pursued Saul and his three sons. Jonathan, Albinadab, and Malchishua were slain. Saul, himself, was severely wounded by archers. He asked his own armorbearer to kill him before the Philistines could. The armorbearer refused. Saul therefore killed himself and so did his armorbearer.

Samuel 1 (The report of Saul’s death)

One man who escaped from Saul’s camp reported to David all that had transpired. He hoped for a rich reward. This man claimed to have been there when Saul and his sons died. He even claimed to have taken Saul’s life, as Saul requested. David had the man executed. David then mourned for Saul and Jonathan and wrote a song in memory of them.

II Samuel 2 (David anointed king of Judah)

David was anointed by Judah at Hebron as the next king. But Abner, commander of Saul’s army, took Saul’s son Ishbosheth (40 years old) and made him king over the remainder of Israel. Only Judah followed David. David ruled over Judah for 7 ½ years.

Joab was David’s commander-in-chief. There was a fierce battle between the forces of Joab and Abner. Judah prevailed. Abner and his men fled. Joab’s brother pursued him and was killed. There was a temporary truce between Judah and Israel.



### II Samuel 3 (Abner switches sides)

Fighting continued between Judah and Israel. The house of David grew stronger and stronger. The house of Saul grew weaker and weaker. There was a disagreement between Abner and Ishbosheth, king of Israel. Abner chose to join forces with David and delivered all Israel and Benjamin to him at Hebron.

Joab didn't trust Abner, and he told David so. Without David's knowledge, Joab later killed Abner in a trap. David mourned greatly for Abner.

### II Samuel 4 (The reaction in Israel)

Ishbosheth and all Israel lost heart and were deeply troubled over Abner's death. Two of Ishbosheth's military leaders turned against him and killed him. They went to David for reward; but they, in turn, were killed.

### II Samuel 5 (David anointed king of Israel)

David became king over all Israel at the age of 30, and he reigned for 40 years. He ruled over Judah for 7 ½ years and over all Israel and Judah for 33 years. Jerusalem became the city of David. David became a great king, and the Lord was with him.

The king of Tyre sent messengers to David along with cedar trees and workers. They built a house (palace) for David in Jerusalem. David's family grew. Twice the Lord helped him defeat the Philistines.

### II Samuel 6 (The ark of the covenant)

David had the ark of the covenant moved to Jerusalem and a new tabernacle. There was a joyful procession with music and dancing. One man died when he touched the ark. David offered sacrifices before the Lord and blessed the people of Israel. Israel now truly had a king who feared the Lord.

II Samuel 7 (God's covenant with David) The Lord graciously granted David peace with his neighbors for a time. David, himself, lived in a beautiful house built out of cedar, but the ark of the Lord sat in a tent (tabernacle). David wanted to build a house for the Lord and the ark. He spoke to Nathan the prophet about his concerns and desires. The Lord told Nathan to tell David that his son and heir would build the Lord's house. He also predicted that David's son would become a great king with an even greater kingdom. The Lord also promised David that His descendant (Jesus) would be "king of kings and lord of lords." He would have an everlasting kingdom. David then offered up a prayer of praise and thanks to the Lord.

## **STUDENT PRAYER**

Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, You have loved each of us with an everlasting love. You have promised to be with us always, even unto the end of the world. Assure us continually of Your grace and blessing in our daily lives. Forgive our many, many sins. Strengthen our weak faith. Help us to live God-pleasing lives more and more. Amen.

## **PRESENTATION**

This particular Bible story covers eight chapters in the Bible. The background notes summarize those chapters and condense the material. Not all the events recorded in them need to be taught in this lesson. They are noted here simply for the teacher's information.

Stress how the Lord was with David-how He richly blessed him and carefully prepared him for his reign as king. Similarly the Lord blesses us and prepares us for our life in this world. We need to remind ourselves and our students of this truth: "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." (I Cor. 10:31)

## **APPLICATIONS**

Much is told us in Scripture about David's life and rise to the position of king. There is much that we can learn from it. The Lord also guides us in our life and blesses us. He wants us, as a fruit of faith, to live our lives unto Him and in His service.

## **PASSAGES**

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

### Lower

Psalms 37:25 - "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his descendants begging bread."

Psalms 115:3 - "But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases."

Matt. 28:20b - "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

John 15:16 - "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you."

Romans 8:28 - "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

Romans 8:32 - "He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?"

I Peter 2:9 - "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (cf. v. 10)

I John 3:1 - "Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us that we should be called children of God."

Middle any of the above and...

Upper any of the above and...

## **HYMN CHOICES**

"Come Thou Precious Ransom, Come" (TLH #554)

"Blessed Are The Sons Of God" (TLH #391)

"Take My Life and Let It Be" (TLH #400)

"Jesus, Lead Thou On" (TLH #410)

"The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want" (TLH #436)

"For All Thy Saints, O Lord" (TLH #468)