Die Gemeinde in stiller Andacht, Seite 23.
5. Einleitung zum Morgen-Gottesdienst.

V. INTRODUCTION TO THE MORNING SERVICE.

Minister and Congregation. Lord of Hosts, with childlike confidence, the soul rises in this holy hour of devotion, to behold light from Thy light; to gain might and strength in the heavenly rays of Thy mercy; to renew our confidence and invigorate our faith at the everlasting fountain of Thine infinite grace. Grant us Thy assistance, Thou Great and Omnipotent God, to resist successfully all temptations of vice; to overcome the allurements of sin; to come forth victoriously from the perpetual struggles of good and evil; and to sanctify this our earthly pilgrimage. For it is the light of Thy grace only which radiates into this
PRAYER.

obscure valley of life, and warmly and revivingly, it penetrates the feeble heart which, in life's incessant struggles, pants after Thee and Thy paternal goodness. Thou sendest the glad tidings to Thy children, "Fear not, for I redeem thee; I call thee by thy name; mine thou art. If thou passest through the water, I am with thee; and through the rivers—they shall not over-flow thee; if thou walkest through fire, thou shalt not be scorched; and the flames shall not burn thee. For I, God thy Lord, the holy One of Israel, am thy Redeemer."

CHOIR.

God redeems, the Lord protects,
God whose grace each fault corrects,
Hears the sinner's pious word,
Showers joy on contrite hearts,
Loves, consoles, benignly guards
All who trust in Him, the Lord.

Minister and Congregation. As Thou, O God our Lord, hast graciously listened to the supplications of our pious ancestors, to whom Thou hast revealed Thyself so often, so benignly and mercifully; O so hear also our humble petitions in this solemn hour of devotion. Remember not our shortcomings, for Thou knowest, that we are but dust and ashes. Let Thy mercy be our portion, refresh us with the silvery dew of Thy benignity, let heavenly peace descend into the breast of the worshiper, and refresh the panting heart with the crystal waves which flow from the eternal
Prayer.

Fountain of Thy grace. Hear us, O God; console, elevate, and sanctify us, O Father, as Thou hast promised: "If the mountains move and the hills quake, my grace shall not leave thee, and my covenant of peace shall not fail, saith thy Merciful God."

Choir.

Mercy beams around Thy throne,
God who art my Rock alone:
Holy One, we trust in Thee
God is nigh, my soul rejoice!
Grace and love, proclaims His voice.
Sing new songs with holy glee.