

# Luther's Judgment Hymn

ADVENT

37

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LUTHER'S HYMN  
J. Klug's Gesangbuch

*f* Great God, what do I see and hear! The end of things cre - a - ted!

The Judge of man-kind doth ap - pear On clouds of glo - ry seat - ed!

*ff* The trum - pet sounds: the graves re - store The dead which they con -

tained be - fore; Pre - pare, my soul, to meet Him! A - MEN.

*mf* 2 The dead in Christ shall first arise  
At the last trumpet's sounding,  
*cr* Caught up to meet Him in the skies,  
*f* With joy their Lord surrounding:  
No gloomy fears their souls dismay,  
His presence sheds eternal day  
On those prepared to meet Him.

*mf* 3 But sinners, filled with guilty fears,  
Behold His wrath prevailing;  
For they shall rise and find their tears  
And sighs are unavailing:  
*dim* The day of grace is past and gone;  
Trembling, they stand before the throne,  
*p* All unprepared to meet Him.

*mf* 4 Great God, to Thee my spirit clings,  
Thy boundless love declaring;  
*cr* One wondrous sight my comfort brings,  
*f* The Judge my nature wearing.  
*mf* Beneath His Cross I view the day  
When heaven and earth shall pass away,  
*cr* And thus prepare to meet Him.

W. B. Collyer and J. Cotterill

The tune, known as “Es ist gewisslich an der Zeit,” (“it is surely the time”) was originally published in *Klug's Gesangbuch* in 1543 for a text of the same name by Bartholomaeus Ringwaldt (1530–1598), a Lutheran pastor. Luther's Judgment Hymn was adapted from this tune for the English translation by William Collyer of the original German, titled “Great God, what do I see and hear,” which relates to the Advent season.

—From *The Church Hymnal*, (Episcopal) Boston 1870