

**Dios Está Aquí – Rocky Mountain Synod Assembly  
Closing Worship ~ May 24, 2025**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Ken welcomes everyone and describes the inclusion of Vicars/TEEM candidates/SAMs as worship leaders, and the intent to lift of all forms of lay leadership and alternate paths to rostered leadership*

*Congregation stands*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader: THANIA**

People of God —  
you who drag your tired bodies out of beds,  
you who lace up your work boots, button your uniforms,  
fire up your laptops, cook the meals, pay the bills,  
teach the children, tend the brokenhearted —  
Come! This is your assembly. This is your moment.  
Not because you have it all together —  
but because God does.

*All:*

**We come — saints with coffee stains, sinners with messy prayers —  
We come, dripping wet from the waters of baptism,  
claimed, named, and never the same again.  
We come because grace has wrecked us in all the best ways.**

**Leader: MATTHEW**

Listen:

The Holy Spirit is not hiring executives or celebrity Christians.  
The Spirit's out here gathering up the dreamers,  
the night-shift workers, the volunteers who say yes when it costs something,  
the grandma who bakes communion bread,  
the teenager who stands up against hate,  
the nurse, the artist, the guy fixing the church boiler at midnight.  
This is lay ministry — wild, gritty, holy.  
And it is changing the world.

*All:*

**We are the church — not the building, not the brand,  
but the breathing, sweating, laughing, weeping, fighting,  
forgiving Body of Christ.**

**Every cracked vessel carries the treasure.**

**Every voice matters.**

**Every scar sings a song of resurrection.**

**Leader: ROXIE**

Hear me now:

This Synod Assembly is not a corporate meeting,  
not a PR stunt, not a photo op for the highlight reel.

This is a workshop for the revolution of grace.

This is a revival for the tired bones.

This is a sending ground for the rough and ready saints  
who know that love is not polite —

it is fierce, it is stubborn, and it refuses to back down.

*All:*

**We are the priesthood of all believers —pastors, yes,  
but also farmers, and teachers, and janitors, and dreamers and activists.**

**We are baptized into a Kingdom**

**where no gift is wasted, no act of kindness forgotten,**

**no voice too small to shake the heavens.**

**Leader: LISA**

So come —

dragging your doubts if you must,

carrying your courage in cracked clay pots.

Come —not because you are perfect,

but because Christ is.

Come —because the world is desperate for the love you carry in your bones.

The Living God is already here.

Already moving.

Already building the future — and guess what?

You're part of it.

***All Together (with fire!):***

**Let us worship God —**

**not as strangers, but as beloved misfits,**

**not as consumers, but as courageous witnesses.**

**Let us worship with everything we've got —**

every song, every sigh, every stubborn hope —  
 for we are the Body of Christ in the world,  
 and the Spirit is not done with us yet!

**GATHERING HYMN**

God is Here ~ ELW 526



1. God is here! As we \_\_\_ your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
 2. Here are sym - bols to \_\_\_ re - mind us of our life - long  
 3. Here our chil - dren find \_\_\_ a wel - come in the Shep - herd's  
 4. Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age \_\_\_ of



praise and prayer,, may we find in full - er mea - sure  
 need \_\_\_ of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
 flock \_\_\_ and fold; here as berad and wine are tak - en,  
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to \_\_\_ the gos - pel;



what it is \_\_\_ in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
 here the cross \_\_\_ has cen - tral place. Here in hon - est -  
 Christ sus - tains \_\_\_ us as \_\_\_ of old. Here the ser - vants  
 help us work \_\_\_ your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our va - ried skills and arts wait the  
 ty \_\_\_ of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech, here, in  
 of \_\_\_ the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship, to ex - plore what it  
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive; we, who



com - ing of \_\_\_ the Spi - rit in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
 new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spi - rit comes to each.  
 means in dai - ly liv - ing to \_\_\_ be - lieve and to a - dore.  
 can - not live with - out you, we \_\_\_ a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Fred pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1907-1991

Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company

Music Text © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company

ABBOT'S LEIGH

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**GREETING**

**L:** The grace of the Risen Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All:** And also with you

## KYRIE AND HYMN OF PRAISE

In peace let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

For the peace from a - bove and for our sal - vation let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world and for the unity of us all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort and defend us gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God glo-ry to God in the

high - est; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God. peace to God's peo-ple on

earth. \_\_\_\_\_ Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al- might-y God and

Fath-er, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your

glo - ry. \_\_\_\_\_ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the

high - est; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God. peace to God's peo-ple on

earth. \_\_\_\_\_ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fath - er, \_\_\_\_\_

Lord \_\_\_\_\_ God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer-cy on us; \_\_\_\_\_ you are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Father, re - ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God, glo-ry to God,  
glo-ry to God in the high - est; glo - y to God, glo-ry to God  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. \_\_\_ For you a - lone are the  
Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, \_\_\_ you a - lone are the  
Most \_\_\_ High, Je - sus Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit.  
Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the  
high - est. A - - - - - men.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*L:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And also with you.**

*L:* Let us pray. Good and gracious God, you have told us that wherever two or three – or three hundred – are gathered in your name, you are here with us. Fill us with your Holy Spirit and send us out to share your love and mercy in a hurting world. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray;

*All:* **Amen**

*Congregation is seated*

**FIRST READING** Genesis 28:10-19a

A reading from the book of Genesis

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. <sup>11</sup> He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. <sup>12</sup> And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. <sup>13</sup> And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, <sup>14</sup> and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed<sup>[c]</sup> in you and in your offspring. <sup>15</sup> Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." <sup>16</sup> Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" <sup>17</sup> And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

<sup>18</sup> So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. <sup>19</sup> He called that place Bethel.

Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.

All: **Thanks be to God**

*Congregation stands*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**GOSPEL READING** Luke 10: 1-11

The Holy Gospel according to Luke

All: **Glory to you, O Lord**

The gospel reading is from *First Nations Version – An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament*

After this, Creator Sets Free (Jesus) chose seventy men from the ones who walked the road with him. He sent them out, two by two, to prepare the way for him in the villages he was about to visit on his way to the Sacred Village of Peace (Jerusalem).

He said to them, “There is a great harvest before us, but there are not enough helpers. Pray to the Harvest Chief, so he will send more helpers. Go and represent me. You will be like lambs walking among wolves. Take no money pouch or traveling bundle with you – not even a second pair of moccasins. Waste no time greeting others on the way

“When you lodge with someone, say to them first, ‘Peace be to this house.’ If people of peace live there, you will be welcomed. If not, your blessing of peace will return to you as you leave. Stay with the ones who welcome you. There is no need to move around from house to house. Share their food and drink with them, for the ones who work hard are worth feeding.

“In any village that welcomes you, eat whatever they set before you. Offer healing prayers for any who are sick and say to them, ‘Creator’s good road has come close to you.’

“If you enter a village and no one welcomes you, go into the village pathways and say, ‘We must wipe the dust of your village from our clothes as a sign against you, for Creator’s good road has come close to you, but you would not welcome it.’

The gospel of the Lord

All: **Praise to you, O Christ**

*Congregation is seated*

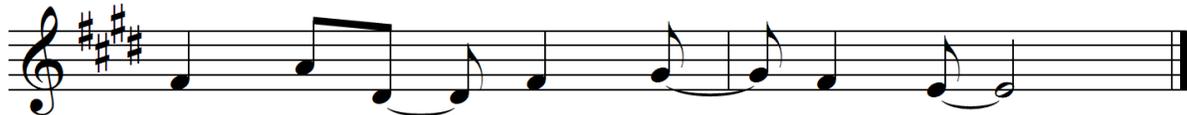
**SERMON** Bishop Meghan Johnston Aelabouni

*Congregation stands*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** Take My Life – ELW 583

*Refrain*

Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,  
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



let them flow in cease - less praise.



1. Take my hands and let them move at the im-pulse of thy love;  
2. Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mitewould I with-hold;  
3. Take my voice and let me sing\_ al-ways, on - ly for my King;  
4. Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no long - er mine;



take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose  
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.  
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.

Text: Frances R. Havergal. 1836-1879, adapt.;

Spanish text: Vincente Mendoza, 1875-1955

Music: William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954

Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

TOMA MI VOLUNTAD

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### **CREED**

**All: I believe in God, eternal, almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of all, the Only Begotten One;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
lived and loved among us,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried,  
who descended into hell,  
and on the third day rose from the dead.**

**Jesus, our Savior, ascended into heaven,  
sits at the right hand of the loving God,  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the dead, and life everlasting. Amen.**

*Congregation is seated*

## **INSTALLATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP STAFF**

*Ruth Hoffman, Synod Vice President:*

After prayerful deliberation, we, of Rocky Mountain Synod Council, have called the following individuals to serve in new calls on Synod staff:

- Pastor Chris Davis to serve as Director for Evangelical Mission (north) and Synod Minister for Generosity
- Rev. Quirino Cornejo to serve as the Director for Evangelical Mission (south) Pastor Sara Wirth to serve as Synod Minister for Transitions and Healthy Ministries
- Deacon Mary Stoneback to serve as Synod Minister for Strategic Communications and Events
- Pastor Diana Linden-Johnson to serve as Synod Minister for Lay and Rostered Leadership

And for the following to continue serving in their roles:

- Yvonne Wilken as Administrator
- Jon Johnson as Finance Director
- Pastor Barbara Berry Bailey as Special Assistant for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion,
- Kurt Rager as Lutheran Advocacy Ministry Director
- Katie Emery as Synod Minister for Transition Support

## **ADDRESS AND QUESTIONS**

*Bishop Meghan Johnston Aelabouni, Rocky Mountain Synod Bishop:*

Our Lord Jesus, who came among us as a servant, calls us to faith and a life of loving service to our neighbor. You come among us as one invited to render a particular service, a gift from God to inspire us to love and good works.

Chris, Quirino, Sara, Mary, Diana, Yvonne, Jon, Barbara, Kurt, and Katie, in the presence of this assembly will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, in the confidence that it comes from God?

**I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Will you carry out this ministry in accordance with the holy scriptures and with the confessions of the Lutheran church and in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?

**I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace and in prayer?

**I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Trusting in God's care, will you seek to grow in love for those you serve, strive for excellence in your skills, and adorn the gospel of Jesus Christ with a godly life?

**I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

*Congregation responds: Amen.*

*Congregation stands.*

*Bishop Meghan:*

People of God, will you receive Chris, Quirino, Sara, Mary, Diana, Yvonne, Jon, Barbara, Kurt, and Katie into this ministry as ones sent to serve in the church of Jesus Christ?

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Will you pray for them, help and honor them for their works' sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ? **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

*Bishop Meghan addresses the Office of the Bishop Staff:*

Chris, Quirino, Sara, Mary, Diana, Yvonne, Jon, Barbara, Kurt, and Katie, I now declare you installed as the staff of the Rocky Mountain Synod. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

**Amen.**

Let us pray. Gracious God, as you have called workers to varied tasks in the world and in your church, so you have called Chris, Quirino, Sara, Mary, Diana, Yvonne, Jon, Barbara, Kurt, and Katie to these ministries. Grant them joy and a spirit of bold trust, that their work may stir up each of us to a life of fruitful service; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Bishop Meghan addresses the congregation:*

People of God, I present to you Chris, Quirino, Sara, Mary, Diana, Yvonne, Jon, Barbara, Kurt, and Katie, staff of the Rocky Mountain Synod. Let us welcome them in the name of Christ.

The congregation may offer acclamation with applause.

## **PRAYERS**

The following prayer response will be sung after each petition

Ho-ly Spi-rit hear us, hear us, hear us we pray. Ho-ly Spi-rit hear us, hear us,

hear us we pray. *1, 2, 3, 4, 5.* *last time only* hear us we pray.

### **KEN: God of Holy Misfits and Sacred Messes,**

You dwell in the cracked places—the lives in the margins held together with duct tape and prayer. Call out to your children hiding on the margins, convinced they are too broken, too messy, too late. Let them hear what You’ve always said: “You are mine. Your story is not over.” Remind us that You don’t build your Church on polish and pretense, but on grace, grit, and holy transformation. Let your light leak through our fractures, and may we be bold enough to shine.

P: God of Grace **C: (sung response)**

### **LAURA: Dios de Milagros y Sabiduría Eterna,**

Señor Jesús, tú que realizaste maravillas en tu ministerio terrenal, vengo a ti como mi intercesor. Extiende tu mano poderosa sobre quienes sufren espiritualmente. Que tu amor infinito y tu compasión sin límites toquen nuestras vidas de manera extraordinaria. Por tu sacrificio, muerte y resurrección, venciste a la muerte y nos diste la promesa de la vida eterna. Ayúdanos a recordarlo cuando enfrentemos luchas, peligros o desesperación. Concédenos sabiduría para comprender, gracia para hablar y fuerza para perseverar. Guíanos al comenzar, sosténnos en el camino y perfecciónanos al final.

P: Dios de Misericordia **C: (sung response)**

**ROXIE: God of the Called and Courageous,**

We pray for all TEEM members across the country. You have moved us from safety into the bold and tender work of preaching. When we feel inadequate—unready for the pulpit—remind us that we are called and gifted for your purpose. Breathe new life into our declining congregations. Grant us the skills and powerful messages which teach and inspire people to return to our churches. Gift our parishioners with the feeling of love, community, and belonging which we can provide as a reflection of Your love for us.

P: God of Grace **C: (sung response)**

**LISA: God of Holy Vocation and Steady Hands,**

You shaped each of us with care, placing gifts in our spirits and callings on our hearts. Today we lift up those serving your Church—pastors, vicars, deacons, SAMs, teachers, and administrators. Strengthen us for the road ahead. Keep your call fresh in our hearts, renewing and regenerating our spirits. Fill us with patience, peace, and joy for the work you have called us to and remind us that you are with us even when the work is hard.

P: God of Grace **C: (sung response)**

**THANIA: God of Bold Witness and Compassionate Action,**

Your grace fuels the ministries of Your Church around the globe. You have called us to teach, to preach, to serve, and to speak truth in love. Open our hearts to the needs of our neighbors. Give us boldness to proclaim Your mercy and faith to act on behalf of those forgotten. Let our words and lives reflect Your saving love—especially to those who do not yet know You. Guide us, empower us, and let all that we do give glory to your name.

P: God of Grace **C: (sung response)**

**MATTHEW: God of Renewal and Radiant Love,**

You have called us to care for creation and to serve Your people. In that calling, You reveal a love that never ends—a light that shines brighter than any darkness. Work through all of us—especially the lay leaders who breathe fresh energy into Your Church and into the communities we call home. Teach us to lead with compassion and steward Your creation with care. Fill our hearts with Your Spirit. Set us ablaze with love, that we might go out with joy and courage to share the good news of Jesus with the world.

P: God of Grace **C: (sung response)**

## SHARING THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you all

All: **And also with you**

*Congregation is seated*

## OFFERING

We will show the video of "We Belong Here" by The Many. The video can be purchased and downloaded at [Themanyarehere.org](http://Themanyarehere.org)

During the video people may give using the QR code provided on the table, or take their offering to one of the baskets stationed around the room.

*Congregation stands*

## OFFERTORY SONG Let us Talents and Tongues Employ ~ ELW 674



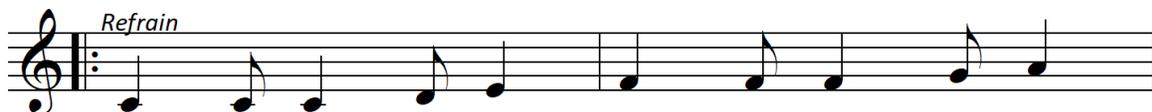
1. Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a  
2. Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he  
3. Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a



shout of joy: bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured,  
sets the tone, teach - ing - peo - ple, the live to bless,  
world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:



Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
love in word and in deed ex - press.  
God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain,



pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: Jamaican fold tine; adapt. Doreen Petter, 1925-1980

Text and music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

LINSTEAD  
LM and refrain

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## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*L:* Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

*All:* **Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*L:* The Lord be with you

*All:* **And also with you**

*L:* Lift up your hearts

*All:* **We lift them to the Lord**

*L:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

*All:* **It is right to give God thanks and praise**

*L:* All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places,  
our true and loving God;  
through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,  
the Wisdom from of high by whom you created all things.  
You laid the foundations of the world  
and enclosed the seas when it burst out from the womb;  
You brought forth all creatures of the earth  
and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,  
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;  
And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation  
as we sing:



L: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,  
your Word has never been silent;  
you called a people to yourself as a light to the nations,  
you delivered them from bondage  
and led them to a land of promise.  
Of your grace you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life,  
to proclaim the coming of your reign  
and give himself for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us  
Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you he broke it,  
gave it to his friends and said:  
Take, eat, this is my body, broken for you  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,  
said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:  
Drink this, all of you:  
this cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
poured out for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me

And so, remembering all that was done for us,  
we acclaim you, O Christ:

*All:*    **Dying, you destroyed our death.**  
          **Rising, you restored our life.**  
          **Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

L: Send your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these gifts of bread and wine  
that they may be to us the body and blood of your Christ.  
Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,  
may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,  
that we may be your people  
to proclaim and embody your love for the sake of the world.

Remember us in your love, O Lord, and teach us to pray:

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

**L:** These are the gifts of God, given for you, the people of God.  
Come now to the table of blessing

*Congregation is seated*

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world Have mer-cy  
on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world. Grant us Your peace, grant us Your peace.

## COMMUNION HYMNS Here is Bread ~ ELW 483



1. Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
 2. Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
 3. Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.



Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.  
 Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Je - sus here.  
 We'll pro-claim till he comes Je - sus cru - ci - fied.



In this bread there is heal-ing, in this cup is life for - ev - er.



In this mo - ment, by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

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HERE IS BREAD

3 3 4 4 3 3 5 and refrain

Be Thou My Vision ~ ELW 793



Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all  
 Be thou my wis - dom and thou my true word: I ev - er  
 Rich - es, I heed not, nor vain emp - ty praise, thou mine in -  
 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won, may I reach



else to me, save that thou art: thou my best thought both by  
 with thee and thou with me, Lord. Thou my soul's shel - ter, and  
 her - i - tance, now and al - ways: thou and thou on - ly, the  
 heav-en's joys, O heav-en's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what-



day and by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pre - sense my light.  
 thou my high tow'r, raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 first in my heart, gread God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 ev - er be - fall, still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vesr. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne. 1880-1931

Music: Irish traditional

SLANE

10 10 10 10

## Build a Longer Table ~ ACS 1062



1. Build a long - er ta - ble, not a \_\_\_ high - er wall,  
 2. Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a \_\_\_ larg - er jail;  
 3. Build a broad - er door - way, not a \_\_\_ long - er fence.  
 4. When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing \_\_\_ room for all.  
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy \_\_\_ will not fail.  
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing \_\_\_ no ex - pense.  
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, stran - ger turns to friend,  
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing \_\_\_ all in - side.  
 Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.  
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1954  
 Music: French carol  
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NOEL NOUVELET  
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## May This Church Be Like a Tree ~ ACS 1042



1. May this church be like a tree, be - hind your house, there in your  
 2. May this church be like a tree there in the street or in the  
 3. May this church be like a tree, O God, that thrives where you have



gar - den, meet - ing - place for joy, and feast, and sim - ple  
 pla - za, for the birds a nest - ing - branch, for pass - ers -  
 plant - ed; may it stand to show the way, your way of



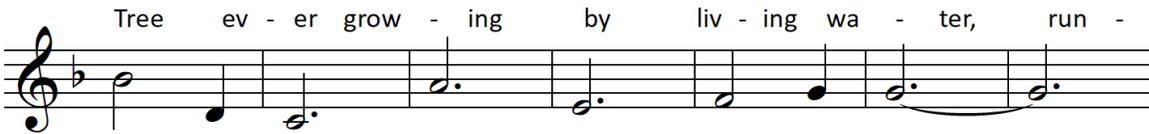
prayer be - neath its branch - es. With its roots in earth so  
 by a wel - come shel - ter. May it stand as if it's  
 lov - ing and self - giv - ing, of - f'ring shade, and fruit for



fer - tile, and its arms raised high to hea - ven,  
watch - ing, near my house, just round the cor - ner,  
shar - ing, giv - ing up its wood for burn - ing.



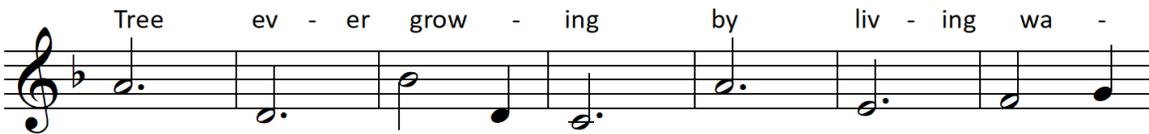
may this church bear fruits of jus - tice, acts of liv - ing and com - pas - sion.  
wait - ing for this wea - ry pil - grim with its arms wide to em - brace me.  
May this liv - ing church that names you be a tree of life e - ter - nal.



Tree ev - er grow - ing by liv - ing wa - ter, run -



ning e - ter - nal, flow - ing from God.



Tree ev - er grow - ing by liv - ing wa -



ter, run - ning e - ter - nal, flow - ing from

God.  
Text: Pablo D. Sosa, 1933-2020; tr. Andrew Donaldson, b. 1951

QUE ESTA IGLESIA SA UN ARBOL  
Irregular

Music: Pablo D. Sosa  
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**POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

L: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in his grace.

## **BLESSING OF HANDS**

The Teem and SAM leaders will go out to all the tables and bless the hand of one person at the table. Then the blessing will go around the table, each person using the oil on the table to bless the hand of the person next to them with these words:

**You are called by your baptism; You are sent in God's love**

Be sure to say that you are welcome to step away from the table or cross your arms over your chest if the touch makes you uncomfortable.

Congregation stands

## **CLOSING HYMN**

### God's Work, Our Hands ~ ACS 1000



1. God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,  
2. God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,  
3. God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,  
4. God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,  
fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,  
prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,  
seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,  
walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,  
pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,  
Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.  
run - in the race with God's fu - ture the goal.  
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.  
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God our hands as we work in your name,  
Bless, God our feet as we fol - low your way,  
Bless, God our voice as we speak in your name,  
Bless, God our lives as we an - swer your call,

