

LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION (LWML) SUNDAY + OCTOBER 4, 2026

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

856 O CHRIST, WHO CALLED THE TWELVE

1 O Christ, who called the Twelve

To rise and follow You,
Forsaking old, familiar ways
For ventures bold and new:
Grant us to hear Your call
To risk security
And, bound in heart and will to You,
Find perfect liberty.

2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve

The truth for ages sealed,
Whose words and works awakened faith,
The ways of God revealed:
Instruct us now, we pray,
By Your empow'ring Word.

True teacher, be for all who seek
Their light, their life, their Lord.

3 O Christ, who led the Twelve
Among the desolate
And broke as bread of life for all
Your love compassionate:
Lead us along the ways
Where hope has nearly died
And help us climb the lonely hills
Where love is crucified.

4 O Christ, who sent the Twelve
On roads they'd never trod
To serve, to suffer, teach, proclaim
The nearer reign of God:
Send us on ways where faith
Transcends timidity,
Where love informs and hope sustains
Both life and ministry.

5 O Christ, the _apostles' Lord,
The martyrs' strength and song,
The crucified and risen King
To whom the saints belong:
Though generations pass,
Our tribute still we bring,
Our hymns a sacrifice of praise,
Our lives an offering.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

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(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore
You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us
our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life

through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

A Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!
The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

C This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

- A** Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 5:1–7

- A** The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 5.

¹Let me sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
and he looked for it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard,
that I have not done in it?
When I looked for it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,

and it shall be trampled down.
6I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and briars and thorns shall grow up;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
7For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the men of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
and he looked for justice,
but behold, bloodshed;
for righteousness,
but behold, an outcry!

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:7-19

A 7Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved!

C ⁸**You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.**

⁹**You cleared the ground for it;
it took deep root and filled the land.**

A ¹⁰**The mountains were covered with its shade,
the mighty cedars with its branches.**

¹¹**It sent out its branches to the sea
and its shoots to the River.**

C ¹²**Why then have you broken down its walls,
so that all who pass along the way pluck its
fruit?**

¹³**The boar from the forest ravages it,
and all that move in the field feed on it.**

A ¹⁴**Turn again, O God of hosts!
Look down from heaven, and see;
have regard for this vine,**

¹⁵**the stock that your right hand planted,
and for the son whom you made strong for
yourself.**

¹⁶**They have burned it with fire; they have cut it
down;**

may they perish at the rebuke of your face!
¹⁷But let your hand be on the man of your right
hand,
the son of man whom you have made strong for
yourself!

C ¹⁸**Then we shall not turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call upon your name!**
¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts!
Let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

EPISTLE

Philippians 3:4b–14

A The Epistle is from Philippians, chapter 3.

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have

suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33–46

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³³Jesus said: “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son,

they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ ³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him,

they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

833 *LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING*

Refrain: Leader: Listen,

All: listen, God is calling
Through the Word inviting,
Offering forgiveness,
Comfort, and joy.

1 Leader: Jesus gave His mandate:

All: Share the good news

Leader: That He came to save us

All: And set us free. Refrain

2 Leader: Let none be forgotten

All: Throughout the world.

Leader: In the triune name of God

All: Go and baptize. Refrain

3 Leader: Help us to be faithful,
All: **Standing steadfast,**
Leader: Walking in Your precepts,
All: **Led by Your Word. Refrain**

Text: tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010; Kenyan

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SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 208

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

**Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and

drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

**☐ Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

837 LIFT HIGH THE CROSS sts. ref—6

ref Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain

2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine.
Refrain

3 All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.
Refrain

4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee.
Refrain

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell.
Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.

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830 SPREAD THE REIGN OF GOD THE LORD

1 Spread the reign of God the Lord,
Spoken, written, mighty Word;
Ev'rywhere His creatures call
To His heav'nly banquet hall.

2 Tell how God the Father's will
Made the world, upholds it still,

How His own dear Son He gave
Us from sin and death to save.

- 3 Tell of our Redeemer's grace,
Who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion's price,
Gave Himself as sacrifice.
- 4 Tell of God the Spirit giv'n
Now to guide us on to heav'n,
Strong and holy, just and true,
Working both to will and do.
- 5 Enter, mighty Word, the field;
Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few
For the work there is to do!
- 6 Lord of harvest, great and kind,
Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath'ring nations all
See Your light and heed Your call.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING FOR MISSION AND EVANGELISM

L “Repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations” (Luke 24:47). We are called to speak in the name of Jesus.

C The Lord has chosen us to be in His Kingdom, and called us to be His witnesses.

L “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation” (Mark 16:15). We hear the call to mission.

C Here am I, Lord. Send me.

L “As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you” (John 20:21). We are sent, equipped with the message of hope.

C Here am I, Lord. Send me.

L “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8). We are empowered to testify of God’s greatness.

C Here am I, Lord. Send me.

L “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few” (Matthew 9:37). We are called to the fields ripe for harvest.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19). We are sent to disciple and baptize.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (Romans 10:15). We are called to bring good news to the broken-hearted.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). The message of salvation is for all.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor” (Luke 4:18). We are called to proclaim good news to the poor and oppressed.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8). We are called to witness everywhere.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “Go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19). Our mission is global.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). God promises to be with us in the mission.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be
gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you
peace.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

388 GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

ref Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. Refrain

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth

Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain

3 Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. Refrain

Text (sts. 1–3): John W. Work II, 1873–1925, alt.; (ref): African American spiritual
Text: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³³Jesus said: “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son,

they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ ³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him,

they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

833 *LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING*

Refrain: Leader: Listen,

**All: listen, God is calling
Through the Word inviting,
Offering forgiveness,
Comfort, and joy.**

1 Leader: Jesus gave His mandate:

All: Share the good news

Leader: That He came to save us

All: And set us free. Refrain

2 Leader: Let none be forgotten

All: Throughout the world.

Leader: In the triune name of God

All: Go and baptize. Refrain

3 Leader: Help us to be faithful,
All: **Standing steadfast,**
Leader: Walking in Your precepts,
All: **Led by Your Word. Refrain**

Text: tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010; Kenyan

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SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 208

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

**Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and

drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

**☐ Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

837 LIFT HIGH THE CROSS sts. ref—6

ref Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain

2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine.
Refrain

3 All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.
Refrain

4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee.
Refrain

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell.
Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.

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830 SPREAD THE REIGN OF GOD THE LORD

1 Spread the reign of God the Lord,
Spoken, written, mighty Word;
Ev'rywhere His creatures call
To His heav'nly banquet hall.

2 Tell how God the Father's will
Made the world, upholds it still,

How His own dear Son He gave
Us from sin and death to save.

- 3 Tell of our Redeemer's grace,
Who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion's price,
Gave Himself as sacrifice.
- 4 Tell of God the Spirit giv'n
Now to guide us on to heav'n,
Strong and holy, just and true,
Working both to will and do.
- 5 Enter, mighty Word, the field;
Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few
For the work there is to do!
- 6 Lord of harvest, great and kind,
Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath'ring nations all
See Your light and heed Your call.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING FOR MISSION AND EVANGELISM

L “Repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations” (Luke 24:47). We are called to speak in the name of Jesus.

C The Lord has chosen us to be in His Kingdom, and called us to be His witnesses.

L “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation” (Mark 16:15). We hear the call to mission.

C Here am I, Lord. Send me.

L “As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you” (John 20:21). We are sent, equipped with the message of hope.

C Here am I, Lord. Send me.

L “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8). We are empowered to testify of God’s greatness.

C Here am I, Lord. Send me.

L “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few” (Matthew 9:37). We are called to the fields ripe for harvest.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19). We are sent to disciple and baptize.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (Romans 10:15). We are called to bring good news to the broken-hearted.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). The message of salvation is for all.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor” (Luke 4:18). We are called to proclaim good news to the poor and oppressed.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8). We are called to witness everywhere.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “Go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19). Our mission is global.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

L “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). God promises to be with us in the mission.

C **Here am I, Lord. Send me.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be
gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you
peace.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

388 GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

ref Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. Refrain

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth

Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain

3 Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessèd Christmas morn. Refrain

Text (sts. 1–3): John W. Work II, 1873–1925, alt.; (ref): African American spiritual
Text: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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