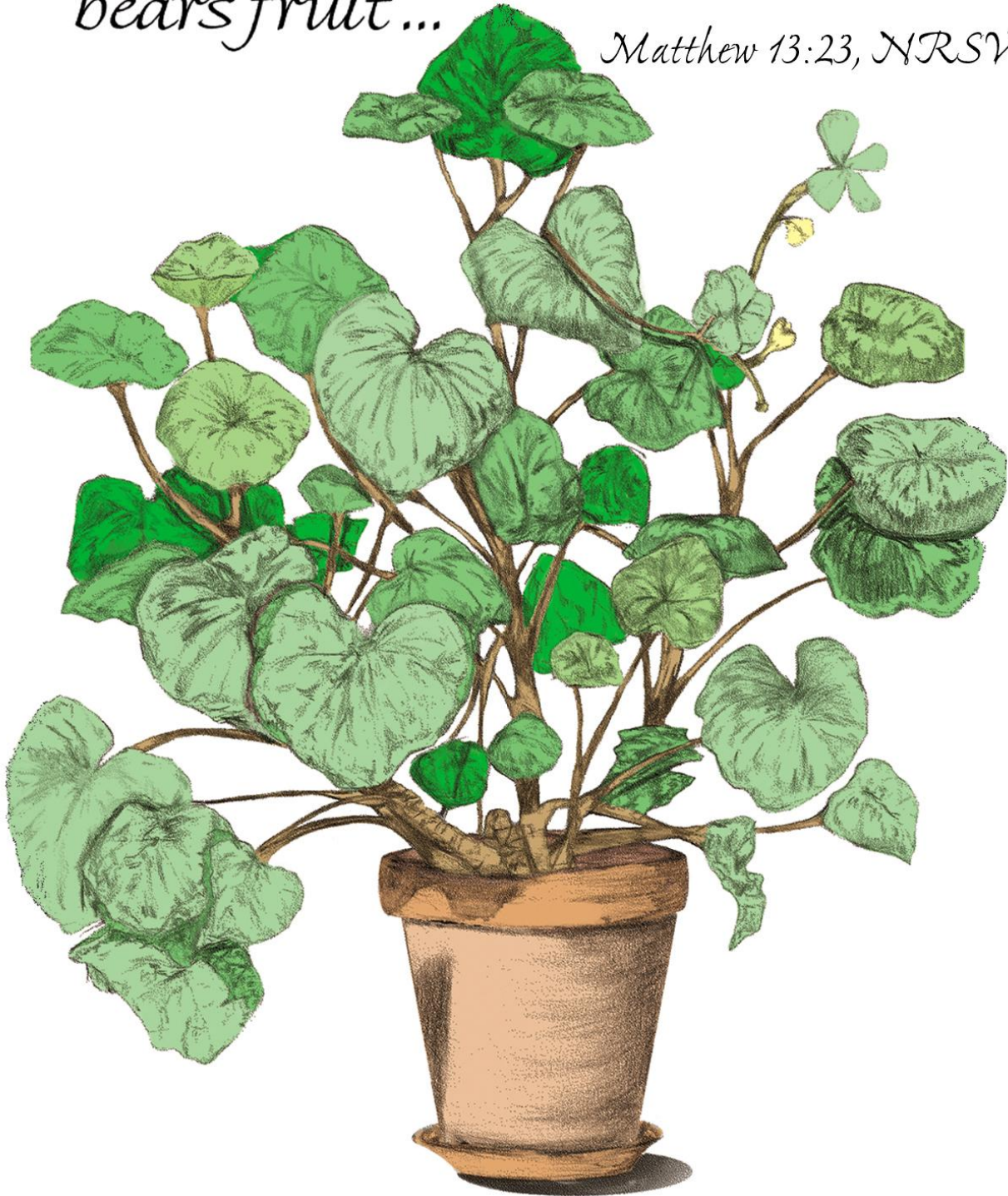


*But as for what was sown on
good soil, this is the one who
hears the word and
understands it, who indeed
bears fruit...*

Matthew 13:23, NRSV



July 12, 2026 9:30 a.m. Worship

SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Lutheran Community of Christian Believers – ELCA

6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road, Naples, FL 34113

Website: www.sotgweb.org

email: sotg6020@gmail.com

Telephone: 239-775-0696

Pastor Jeff: 641-529-2479

All Are Welcome!

All who have come to worship are heartily welcomed. Let us joyfully open our hearts to God and to one another.

You are encouraged to participate in all that Shepherd of the Glades has to offer and to make Shepherd of the Glades your spiritual home.

If Shepherd of the Glades can be of service to you or if you would like Pastor Jeff to contact you, please so indicate on the pew welcome sheet.

July 12, 2026 9:30 a.m. Worship

Please stand where indicated by +

Congregation is invited to join where indicated by bold type

PRELUDE

A Hymn Medley played by Jan Wolfe

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

P Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C **Amen.**

+ GATHERING HYMN

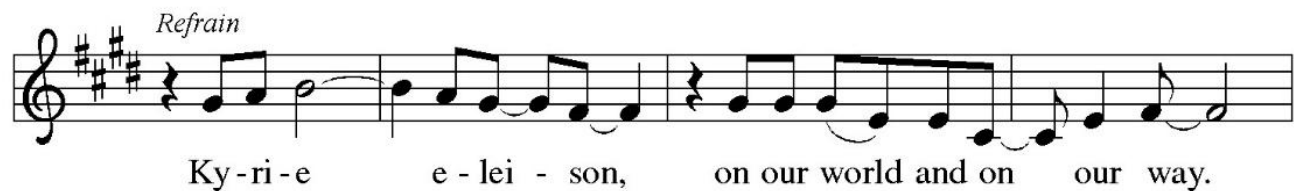
"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

ELW #533

A The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

+ KYRIE



- 2 That we may live out your im - passionate re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



hun - gry and the poor; that

friends and fam - i - ly; for

wa - ter and the word; that you



we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,

life and for love, for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray.

C Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle, and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 65:9-13 (*read responsively*)

⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

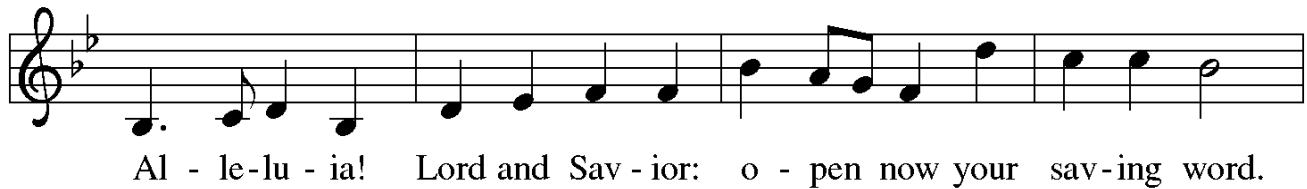
¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



+ THE HOLY GOSPEL according to: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!"

¹⁸ "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey T. Ungs

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

"Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast"

ELW #516

+ APOSTLES' CREED

A Let us proclaim our trust in the presence and power of God in our lives with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

+ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A God our gardener, you scatter grace like seed across the world. Continue to cultivate the garden of your church with your abundant Spirit. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A God our joy, your bountiful creation reflects your commitment to life despite our actions disregarding its wonder. We look toward Isaiah's vision, when all creation rejoices, and the trees will clap for joy at your salvation. God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

A God our life, you give us the same Spirit by which you raised Christ from the dead. Set our minds on that Spirit whenever fear or condemnation overwhelm throughout the world. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P God our host and table, we pray for children who hunger and rely on school meals, for all who toil under the hot sun without refreshment, for the chronically ill who have exhausted their resources, and for local concerns. We pray today especially for Ana Maria Gilliam, Doug Walck, Fred & Loretta Ruff, Linda & Gary Salisbury, Nick & Anita Lehr, Patricia Lussky, Renee, Sara Hundley, Susan Schacht, Wayne Cokes and Venezuelan people affected by recent earthquakes. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A God our source, tend this assembly with your grace throughout this summer season. May those who travel for work or recreation do so safely, and may visitors find refreshment among us. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P Rejoice with us as we recognize the birthdays of our friends Lee Collins, James Bernabei, Ken Oberst and Chuck Keller. Continue to bless the marriage of Mark & Ginger Welch. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A We give you thanks that the roots of your goodness run deep throughout history. We remember those saints who have gone before us in faith. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

+ SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

A The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERTORY

We give an offering to show thanks for God's blessings, and to support the ministries of God's Church, near and far. Offering collection plates are available upon entry to the sanctuary before worship or as you leave after its conclusion. To give electronically, just scan this code with your phone or visit our website: www.sotgweb.org.



OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

PROPER PREFACE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and the blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C **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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are invited and welcome to come forward to partake of the sacrament of Holy Communion. If you would like communion brought to you in your pew, please notify an usher. For your safety and convenience, you will have a choice of coming to the altar rail or taking communion in your pew in an individually sealed container.

If, for any reason, you are not comfortable receiving communion, but would like to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms, indicating you wish to receive a blessing.

The Eucharist is celebrated by intinction. Our Altar Guild at all communion services offers grape juice (lighter color), as well as wine (darker color), for intinction, the dipping of the wafer into the wine or juice. One chalice will hold both wine and grape juice. Note: Gluten free wafers are offered, as well, in the Narthex or as you come forward.

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C **Amen.**

+ THE BLESSING

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
C Amen.

+ SENDING HYMN

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

ELW #547

+ DISMISSAL

P Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
C Thanks be to God.

MINISTRIES FOR TODAY

Ushers: Rich & Becky McDanel, Jennifer White and Laurie Sullivan

Lector: Brenda Charleston

Communion Assistants: Jennifer White and Laurie Sullivan

Assisting Worship Leader: Bonny Dery

Altar Guild: Donia Mrozek

A/V Technician: Abraham Unga

The flowers are given by Bobbie & Gary Ramsey in honor of all the church volunteers.

THIS WEEK

Office hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
Pastor Jeff is available by appointment in the office or by cell phone.

Tuesday 8:30 a.m. Sew Sews gather in Hanson Hall

Saturday GRACE PLACE BACKPACK DISTRIBUTION
Seeking volunteers to assist with the distribution of the back-to-school supplies to the Grace Place students. Talk with Becky McDanel, our SOTG volunteer coordinator for this project.

ONGOING WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

Mondays 9:00 a.m. Bone Builders gather in Hanson Hall
Noon Alcoholics Anonymous meet in Hanson Hall

Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. Bone Builders gather in Hanson Hall
10:30 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study in the Choir Room

Saturdays 9:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous meet in Hanson Hall

Sundays 9:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary and Online – service is live-streamed on YouTube or can be accessed on our website, www.sotgweb.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Would you like to serve as Assisting Worship Leader? There is a volunteer sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Choose a Sunday (or more) and provide your name and phone number. Speak with Pastor Jeff if you have questions.

If you or someone you know is hospitalized and would like a visit from Pastor Jeff, please call the church office. Local hospitals do not notify churches when one of their congregants is admitted.

Please remember to sign in on the pew pad and pass it down the row so all may sign. This allows the church office to maintain accurate records for our annual attendance reports to the Synod. Thank you!

Dates are available throughout the summer to sponsor the altar flowers in celebration or memory of a person or occasion. Sign-up sheet is on the wall in the Narthex or you may call the office during normal business hours. Cost is \$40 per arrangement.



SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Our mission is "Transforming lives through the Living Word of God."

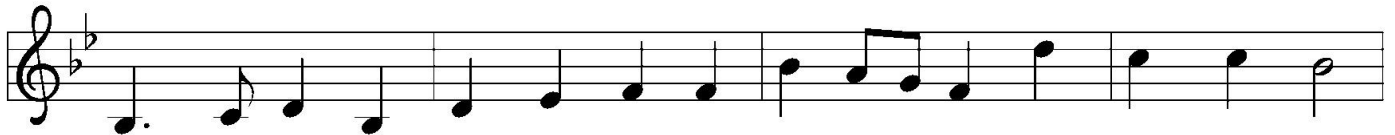
Pastor	Rev. Jeffrey T. Ungs
Director of Music	Megan Cianflone
Congregational President	Penny Morken
Administrative Assistants to the Pastor	Lynn Dickerman
	Deanna Colbert



Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
as my guid-ing star through life, as my com-fort in all strife.
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast



1 Al-might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,



now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.

Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, *Psalter*, 1562

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,

the peo - ple of our God from this dwell - ing take leave.
 the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—

The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
 our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,

the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
 em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.

The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
 With your feast you feed us, with your light now

reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
 lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.

Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
 Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing

to give work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
 give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune

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