

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 28, 2024

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
215 N. Warren St.
Orwigsburg, PA
570-366-2316
www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit,
Amen.

If we say we have no sins, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us - from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“Praise and Thanksgiving”
[See back of bulletin]

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, we long for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and help us share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

A READING FROM 2 KINGS

⁴²A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha,] the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." ⁴³But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.' " ⁴⁴He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD. (2 Kings 4:42-44)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:10-18 (Read responsively)

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your faithful shall bless you.

**They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom,
and tell of your power,
to make known to all people your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

**The LORD is faithful in all his words,
and gracious in all his deeds.**

The LORD upholds all who are falling,
and raises up all who are bowed down.

**The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.**

You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.

**The LORD is just in all his ways,
and kind in all his doings.**

The LORD is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.

A READING FROM EPHESIANS

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:14-21)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Optional Repeat

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, ⁹“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish.

But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going. (John 6:1-21)

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Break Now the Bread of Life"
[See back of bulletin]

THE APOSTLES' CREED (In Unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He 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 body,
and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

God of generations, bless the church you have called into being across time and space and fill it with the power of the Spirit for loving service. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of field and forest, as grains of wheat grow upon the earth and fish swim in the waters, sustain your creation and give food to every person in due season. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God beyond borders, bless the work of negotiators and peacekeepers, shield those who often work in harm's way, and bring an end to war and conflict. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of healing, comfort and sustain those who endure hunger and homelessness, those who seek safety and freedom, and those for whom death is near. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace, as you inspired our ancestors in faith, sustain us also in every new endeavor, that we may always give thanks for your glory and share your lovingkindness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all, we give thanks for the lives of all your saints. Join our voices with theirs in singing your praises here on earth and one day in your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

(The Pastor concludes): Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY HYMN “As the Grains of Wheat”

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the lyrics 'As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were'. The second staff continues with 'gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from'. The third staff concludes with 'all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table and invited us to this bountiful feast. As we share this meal, strengthen us in faith and transform us, so that we can be your living body for the sake of the world. **Amen.**

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

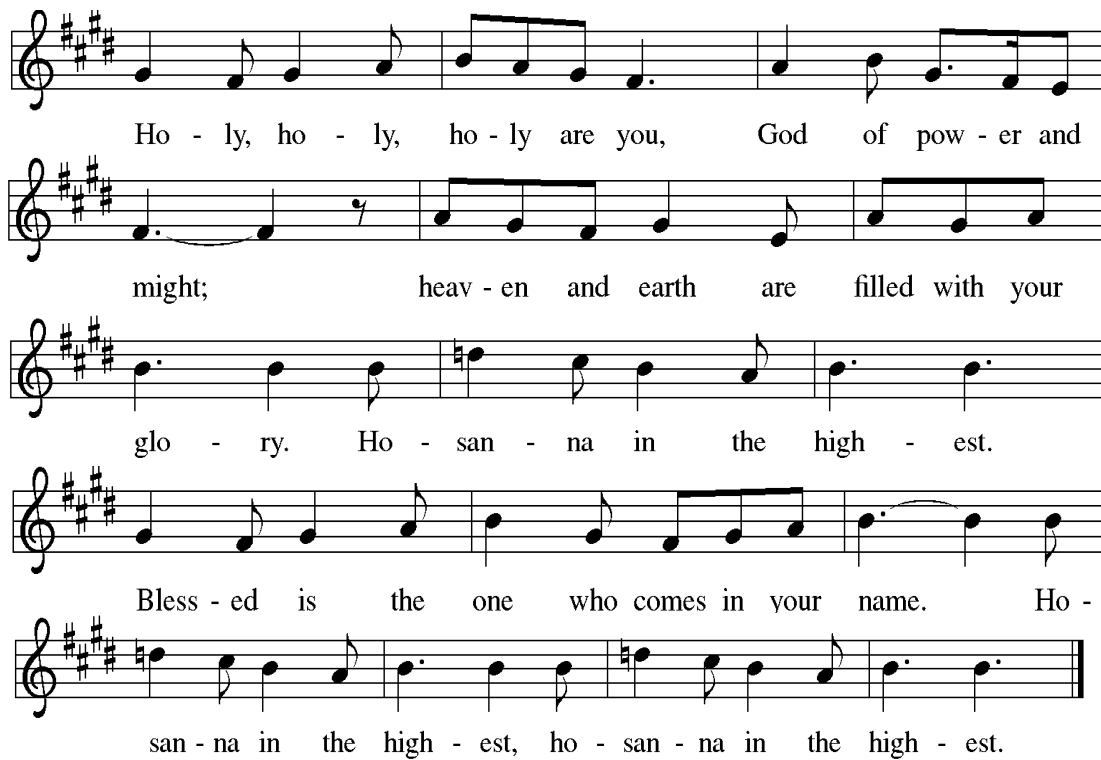
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

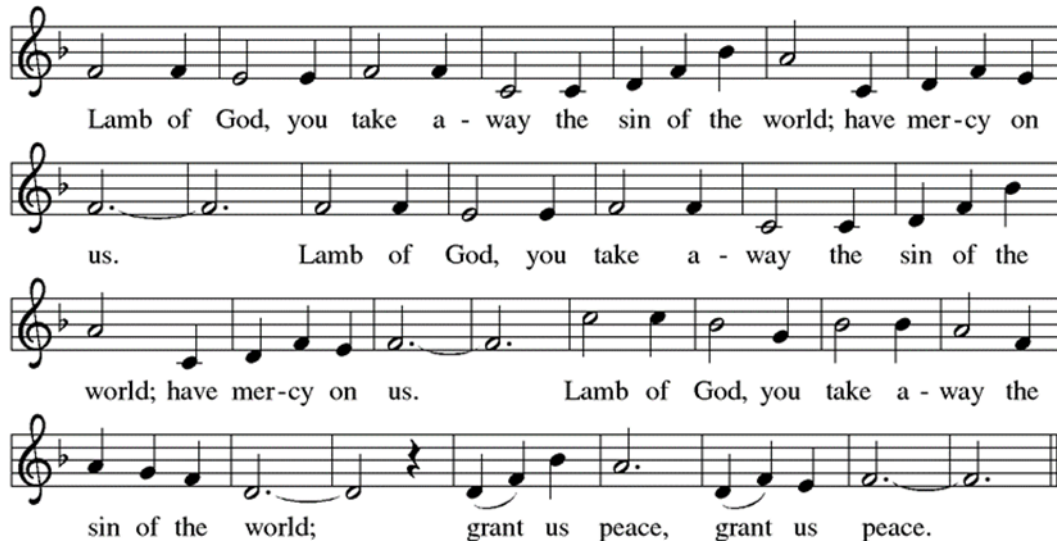
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the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

INSTRUCTIONS

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. Communicants may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. After you have received the Sacrament, you may choose to briefly stand at the chancel rail before returning to your seat. If you or your child would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest.

Those who are unable to come forward should indicate that they wish to receive the Sacrament and they will receive it as they sit in their pew. Communion is shared with those seated on the pulpit side and then with those seated on the lectern side.

AGNUS DEI



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; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" [See back of bulletin]

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Our Liturgy and Music are used by permission through Augsburg Fortress License #20611.

Introduction to the day: Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from the 6th chapter of the Gospel of St. John. The first four focus on Jesus as the bread of life. Today, Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus’ table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S

Sunday, July 28	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Saturday, August 3	5:30 PM	Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday, August 4	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	7:00 PM	“Jump for Joy” Concert

SERVING TODAY (7/28/24)

9:30 AM

GREETER: Cindy Ritschel; USHER: Carl Heintzelman

LECTOR: Chris Long; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kristin Durkee

ALTAR GUILD: Tina Butler and Chris Long

COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Glenda Bright, and Barb Sterner

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (8/4/24)

9:30 AM

GREETER: Tina Butler; USHER: Gwen Wehr

LECTOR: Tina Butler; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Tom Wehr

ALTAR GUILD: Tina Butler and Chris Long

COUNTERS: Gwen Wehr and Glenda Bright

SIGN-UP SHEET FOR BENEFIT CONCERT

Our Women of the ELCA will provide light refreshment for the “Jump for Joy” Concert on Sunday, August 4 at 7 p.m. Proceeds from this concert will benefit the Red Creek Wildlife Center. A sign-up sheet is in our gathering room.

GWOH 2024

This year we will again collect items requested by Servants to All - My Father’s House, as our congregation’s “God’s Work. Our Hands.” project.

New (or very gently used) items requested include:

Hygiene Products - tampons/feminine pads, toothbrushes and toothpastes, deodorant, soap, wet wipes, disposable razors, lotions, bath towels, and washcloths.

Bedding - Bed linens (twin or full-sized sheet sets), blankets, pillows, and pillowcases.

Cleaning Products - All-purpose cleaners, laundry detergents, disinfectants, hand sanitizers, mops, brooms, and buckets.

We will collect items through August 31. “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday is set for September 8, 2024.

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

Please worship with us again. Take a copy of our newsletter. Check out our webpage. Visit us on Facebook. Watch our weekly video on YouTube and get to know us better! We have a rich Lutheran tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. Everyone is invited to worship with us and work together to the glory of God!

“JUMP FOR JOY” CONCERT

Our Stewardship in Creation (STiC) Team will host their second annual “Jump for Joy” Concert here on Sunday, August 4, at 7 p.m. This concert will benefit the Red Creek Wildlife Center located in Schuylkill Haven, PA. Music, fun, and more than a few surprises are promised. Peggy Hentz from the Red Creek Wildlife Center will even bring one of her animal friends to this event. A free-will offering will be taken at this event, door prizes will be awarded, and refreshments will follow the concert. Come, bring a neighbor, and help save our wildlife “friends!”

GATHERING HYMN

“Praise and Thanksgiving”



1 Praise and thanks-giv-ing, God, we would of-fer for all things
2 God, bless the la-bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa-ther, pro-vid-ing food for your chil-dren, by Wis-dom's
4 Then will your bless-ing reach ev-'ry peo-ple, free-ly con-

liv-ing, you have made good: har-vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow-ing or till-ing, we would work
guid-ing teach us to share one with an-oth-er, so that, re-
fess-ing your gra-cious hand. Where you are reign-ing, no one will

or- chard, hay from the mown fields, blos-som and wood.
with you, har-vest-ing, mill-ing for dai-ly bread.
joic-ing with us, all oth-ers may know your care.
hun-ger; your love sus-tain-ing show-ers the land.

WHERE ARE OUR OFFERING PLATES?

Our offering plate is in the back of the church near the center aisle. If you would like to give an offering and have not already done so, please place your offering in the plate before worship begins or as you leave the church.

NEW BOOKS TO READ!

Our church mice have informed us that our Library Ladies have filled a new bookcase with brand new books. Copies of their list of new additions are in our narthex next to our bulletins. Please pick up a list and consider how reading a new book might make this summer -- even more enjoyable!

HYMN OF THE DAY “Break Now the Bread of Life”

1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly

broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live

I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Starting Monday July 8, and continuing throughout the summer months, our church office will be open Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

PROGRESSIVE PICNIC

A progressive picnic will be held on August 17, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Steve and Robin Zimmerman. At 8:00 p.m., dessert will be enjoyed at the home of Lee and Amy Dewald. A sign-up sheet is in the gathering room.

COMMUNION HYMN “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - jice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

DONATIONS ARE NEEDED!

Orwigsburg Food Pantry is greatly in need of toilet paper and paper towels. If you can help, you can put the items into the collection box at Boyer's or bring them to the Food Pantry at St. John's UCC each Tuesday around 12 noon to 1:00 p.m.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

The “Blessing of the Backpacks” will be held on Sunday, August 25, at our 9:30 a.m. service. Teachers, students, school staff, parents, and guardians are invited to attend. Refreshments and fellowship will follow.

OUR PASTOR AND STAFF

Reverend Michael T. Petresky	570-366-2316 - Ext 11	pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director	570-573-4076	justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Amy Dewald, Office Support Staff	570-366-2316	office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton	484-408-5152	No Email
Karen Travor, Treasurer	610-507-2797	karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-617-9617	cwlutsey@gmail.com
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager	936-648-6809	jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

SENDING HYMN

“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 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.
hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.