

Joy Lutheran Church of Rockwall, Texas
302 N. Goliad - Rockwall, Texas 75087
(214) 716-7539 • www.joyslutheranchurch.org

North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

North Texas/Oklahoma Mission District

*Bringing Joy to the
Heart of Rockwall*

We are a community of faith, formed
in the grace and joy of Jesus Christ.

We are a people involved in God's
sure and unfolding promise to mend
His creation through the life, death
and resurrection of His Son, Jesus
Christ, and in the power of the Holy
Spirit.

We are a church under the cross of
Christ, shaped by the ancient rhythms
of Christian worship, fellowship and
service to others.

COME SHARE THE JOY!

Our Pastor

Rev. Martin Moore
martinmoore55@gmail.com
(979) 551-6222

Our Council President

Rhonda White
rhondawhite08@gmail.com



*"The Good Shepherd" 3rd century Fresco
in the Catacombs of St Callixtus, Rome*

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (YEAR A)
SEPTEMBER 6, 2026**



Our Members, Guests and Visitors

We are all on a journey of faith; God does not expect us to make the journey alone.

Please contact us if we can be of help in any way.

Pastor Martin Moore: 979-551-6222 • martinmoore55@gmail.com
214-716-7539 • www.joylutheranchurch.org

Prelude

You may use this time to prepare your heart for worship

- Welcome! Whether you are a longtime member or visiting for the first time, you are a gift from God to us. Guests, please fill out the card on the back of your pew and place it in the offering plate later in the service. May the love of Christ comfort you, and the love of His people encourage you!
- All who are baptized and desire to share in the Body and Blood of our Lord are welcome to receive Communion.
- Children in worship are a blessing! A worship bag (filled with coloring pages and crayons, children's bulletin, etc.) is available at the back of the sanctuary to use during worship. Ask an usher if you need assistance.
- We've started an Artists' Gathering, which includes drawing, painting, crafts, etc., every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please come join us in the Fellowship Hall.
- Helping Hands collections for the Food Bank is today. If you are unable to donate non-perishable food items, cash is always welcome.
- Young at Heart Luncheon is Wednesday, September 9th at 11:45 at Oar House Seafood in Rockwall.
- Church Council Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 9th at 6:00 pm.
- Rally Day is Sunday, September 13th.
- Sunday school resumes September 20th at 9:15 a.m.
- A congregational potluck is scheduled after worship on Sunday, September 20th. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.
- Please remember to review the Blessing Board to volunteer for various ministries.

“O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.” (Psalm 96:9)

Please stand

PROCESSIONAL HYMN~ “ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL” (*Green P. 245*)

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! Psalm 67:3

Text: William Kethe, d.1594

Tune: Louis Burgeois, 1510-1561

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff contains measures 1 through 3, the second staff contains measures 4 through 6, and the third staff contains measures 7 through 9. Chord symbols (G, D, Em, D, Em, D, G, G, D, C, D, G) are placed above the notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures.

All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with
Know that the Lord is God in - deed; With - out our aid he
Oh, en - ter then his gates with praise; Ap - proach with joy his
For why? The Lord our God is good: His mer - cy is for -
cheer - ful voice; Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell;
did us make. We are his folk, he doth us feed,
courts un - to; Praise, laud, and bless his name al - ways,
ev - er sure; His truth at all times firm - ly stood,
Come ye be - fore him and re - joice.
And for his sheep he doth us take.
For it is seem - ly so to do.
And shall from age to age en - dure.

5 To Father, Son and Holy Ghost
The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore.

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

As the Pastor says the Invocation, the Sign of the Cross ✠ may be made in remembrance of our baptisms.

Pastor (P): “In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

Congregation (C): Amen

(P): "Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord." (C): **Amen.**

(P): "If we say we have no sin, 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.

(P): "Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another." ...

(P): Most merciful God,

(C): **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.**

(P): In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

(C): **Amen**

GREETING

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

(C): **And also with you.**

KYRIE ~ (Green, P. 78)

(P): "In peace, let us pray to the Lord." (C): **Lord, have mercy.**

(P): "For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord."

(C): **Lord, have mercy.**

(P): "For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord." (C): **Lord, have mercy.**

(P): "For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord." (C): **Lord, have mercy.**

(P): "Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord." (C): **Amen**

HYMN OF PRAISE: "THIS IS THE FEAST"

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, Al-le-lu-ia.

All
1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, Al-le-lu-ia.

2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the
hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(P): The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

(P): O Lord, always lead and follow us with your grace, that we may be still more intent on doing good. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

(C): Amen

Please be seated

HOLY WORD

(God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song)

FIRST READING:

Ezekiel 33:7-9

⁷"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul."

(P): The Word of the Lord

(C): Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 32:1-8*

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,*
and whose sin is put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,*
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,*
because of my groaning all day long.

⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;*
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you,*
and did not conceal my guilt.

⁶**I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."***
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁷Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;*
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

⁸**You are my hiding place; you preserve me from trouble;*
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

SECOND READING

Romans 13:1-10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.

²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

(R): The Word of the Lord

(C): Thanks be to God!

Please stand for the Reading of the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~ "ALLELUIA"



THE HOLY GOSPEL

(P): The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th Chapter.

(C): Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL
Matthew 18:1-20

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

(P): The Gospel of the Lord.
(C): **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please be seated

HOMILY FOR THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ONE LORD, TWO HANDS

“Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.” (Rom. 13:1)

“If this [God’s gift of government] were not so, men would devour one another, seeing that the whole world is evil and that among thousands there is scarcely a single true Christian. No one could support wife and child, feed himself, and serve God. The world would be reduced to chaos. For this reason, God has ordained two governments: the *spiritual*, by which the Holy Spirit produces Christians and righteous people under Christ; and the *temporal*, which restrains the un-Christian and wicked so that – no thanks to them – they are obliged to keep still and to maintain an outward peace.” –Martin Luther

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ “HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE YOUR NAME” (Green, P. 535)

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

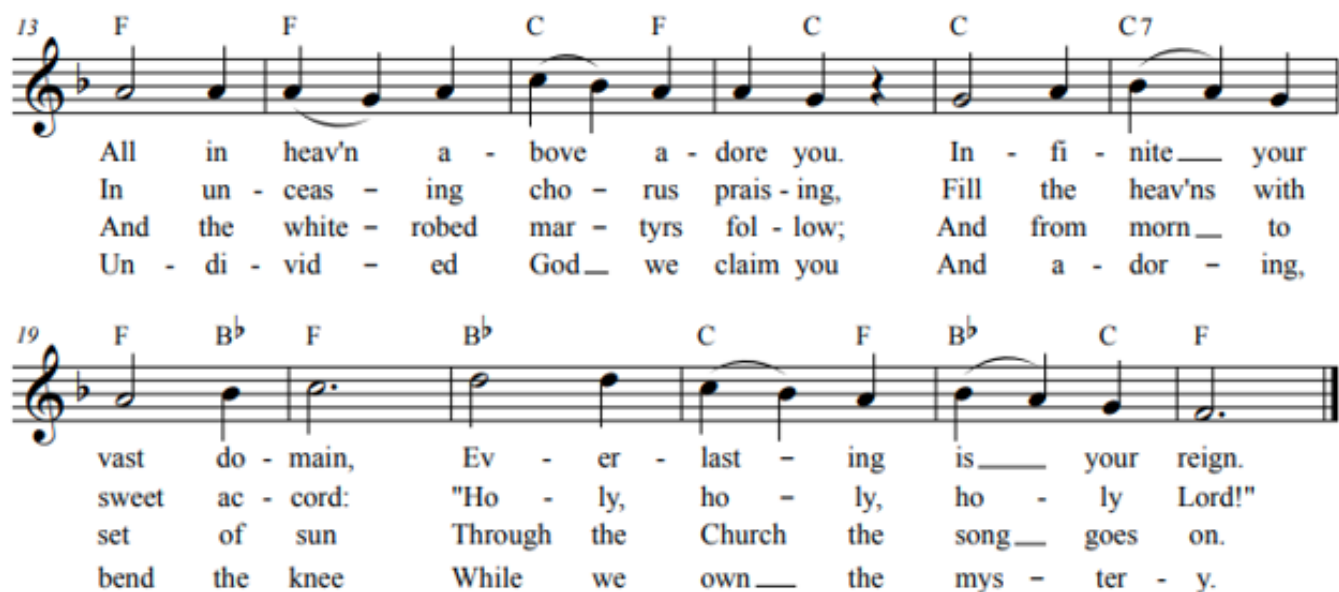
My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever. Psalm 145:21

Text: Unknown; trans Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900

Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna

The musical score is written on two staves in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like. Chord symbols (F, C) are placed above the staff to indicate harmonic structure. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with line breaks corresponding to the musical phrases.

Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all we
Hark! The glad - ce - les - tial hymn An - gel choirs a -
Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train Join your sa - cred
Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,
7 bow - be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,
bove are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
name to hal - low; Proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
three we name you. Though in es - sence on - ly one;



13 F F C F C C C7

All in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite — your
In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, Fill the heav'ns with
And the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; And from morn — to
Un - di - vid - ed God — we claim you And a - dor - ing,

19 F B $\flat$ F B $\flat$ C F B $\flat$ C F

vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is — your reign.
sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
set of sun Through the Church the song — goes on.
bend the knee While we own — the mys - ter - y.

Please Remain Standing

APOSTLES' CREED

(P): "With the whole church, let us confess our faith 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, 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 THE CHURCH

(P): Confident in God's steadfast love through Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

(P): ... Lord in your mercy. **(C): hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

(P): Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (C): **Amen**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

(P): "The peace of the Lord be with you always." (C): **And also with you.**

(P): "Let us share that peace with one another."

Please be seated as the gifts and offerings are collected

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Please stand as the gifts and offerings are brought forward

Please be seated [after sharing the peace - ushers will collect offering]

GATHERING & PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

*As the gifts are brought forward to the altar,
we will sing the Offertory Response*

Please stand.

"LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL"

The musical score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The final line ends with a double bar line.

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and
dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

(P): Let us pray.

(C): We give you our thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please remain standing

THE HOLY MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(P): The Lord be with you. (C): **And also with you.**

(P): Lift up your hearts. (C): **We lift them up to the Lord.**

(P): Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. (C): **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

THE PROPER PREFACE

(P): "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 rose beyond the bounds of death and, [on this day,] as he had promised, poured out your Spirit of life and power upon the chosen disciples. At this the whole earth exults in boundless joy. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:"

SANCTUS - HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Please remain standing.

HOLY MEAL

(God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(P): 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.

(P): 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.'

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes.

(C): Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

(P): Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of His resurrection, we await His coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

(C): Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

(P): Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of His resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

(C): Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

(P): Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

(C): Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

(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

Please be seated

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

(P): Come, for all has been prepared.

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

We invite all baptized believers to come forward and receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Small children are invited to come with arms folded across their hearts to receive a blessing from the pastor. Both the elements of wine and grape juice are offered. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please inform an usher and communion will be brought to you.

Please stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

(P): May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **(C): Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(P): Let us pray: "We give you our thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord."

(C): Amen

Please remain standing

THE DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SENDING

(God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.)

BLESSING

(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

SENDING HYMN ~ "SENT FORTH BY GOD'S BLESSING" (*Green, P. 221*)

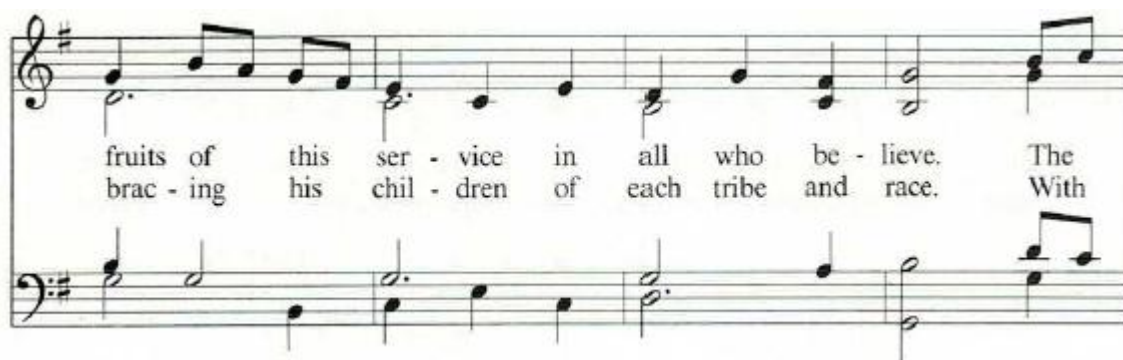
221 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano and Bass, in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system has two staves with lyrics for two parts. The second system also has two staves with lyrics. The third system has two staves with lyrics. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a clear cadence at the end of each line.

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

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

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



DISMISSAL

(P): "We are called by Christ"

(C): **To JOYfully share Jesus and ourselves with our neighbors.**

(P): "Go in peace. Share the good news."

(C): **Thanks be to God.**

OUR WORSHIP SERVANTS THIS MORNING:

Greeter:	Marsha Mattes
Ushers:	Inez Roach and Gail Crawford
Altar Care:	Sandra Lacroix
Lector & Communion Assistant:	Wendy McCrillis
Acolyte & Crucifer:	Matthew Chubbs and Reilly Mahoney
Music & Facebook Monitor:	Juan Garnica and Trey Phillips
Hospitality:	Bobbie Chubbs
Offering Count Team:	Inez Roach and Joshua Hart
Altar Flowers:	The McCrillis Family