

Zion Lutheran

**Mission: Creating Community Through
God's Love and Guidance**



RALLY SUNDAY
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 14, 2025

ORDER OF SERVICE

(The assembly speaks the bold print)

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #834

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.
Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
Amen.

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

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING OF THE STUDENTS, TEACHERS, PARENTS, AND BACKPACKS

FIRST READING

Exodus 32:7-14

A reading from Exodus.

⁷ The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " ⁹ The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation." ¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' "

¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 51

The Confession Psalm

1. Please have mer - cy on me God, ac -

2. Yes, my sin is ev - er there and

3. You'd have truth with in my heart, so

4. Please have mer - cy on me, God; re -

cord - ing to your stead - fast love;

al - ways e - vil in your sight.

purge and make me pure and wise.

new my spir - it con - stant - ly.

and, ac - cord - ing to your mer - cy,

I was brought forth in in - i - qui - ty

Wash me clean like fall - ing snow. My

Keep me safe - ly in your pres - ence

wash me ful - ly from a - bove

like the child - dren of the night.

sing is hid - den from your eyes.

now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

L.Y. © 1982 John C. Ylvisaker
Music: "Restoration", trad. American

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17

A reading from 1 Timothy.

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

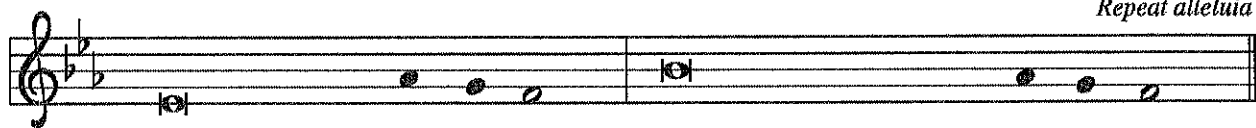
Word of God Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting 12



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:1-10

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?

⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. ⁸ "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Jan LaVake

HYMN OF THE DAY #789

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

APOSTLES' CREED

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 the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, receive our prayer.

PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY HOLY HOLY

Setting 12

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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

THE 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.

LAMB OF GOD

Setting 12



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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

COMMUNION HYMN #457

"Waterlife"

TABLE BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN #547

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

**Creating Community through God's Love and Guidance —
thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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Greeter: Gary Busch, Linda Wirtz

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Maintenance Engineer: Elliot Pegel

Parish Nurse: Kandie Wilz kw4421333@gmail.com (920) 442-1333

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heatherwatney@gmail.com

Choir Director: Cheryl Meyer

Handbells: Paula Staedt

Song Leaders: Cheryl Meyer, Wendy Sachs, David Dagenais

Hospitality Coordinator: Lynn Walter lynn@zionappleton.org

Outreach Coordinator: Brianne Connelly bconnelly26@gmail.com

Zion Lutheran 920-739-3104

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30--2:00 pm.

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For Pastoral emergencies contact Vicar Jake at 920-570-1514.

His office hours are Tuesday & Wednesday 11am-2pm.

Welcome!

We invite visitors to complete the card in the pew and put it in the collection basket. Thank You!

Attendance:

Last Week: 68

Last Year: 106

Announcements!

Today is Rally Sunday. Welcome to a new year of Sunday School and Confirmation. We look forward to plunging in to God's Word with you!

ELCA celebrates "God's Work, Our Hands" on Sept. 7th but Zion will be celebrating it all the month of September. We are doing cleaning rooms at Zion. We will be calling for volunteers for Zion work. When you get a call please remember "God's Work, Our Hands". Zion appreciates it very much.

We have a new manager at Zion Mutual Homes. His name is Jeremy Stanton. He is married with 2 awesome daughters, Olivia and Abigail. You may not have a chance to see or meet him but if you do please welcome him to Zion.

On Saturday, September 20th at 2:00pm Zion will be hosting a vocal concert. Tony Beacco & Ann Bercham will bring their expressive voices with a mix of duet and solo performances. Keith Cahoon will be the pianist. They promise an unforgettable concert full of heart, harmony & artistry. There will be a freewill offering with half of it going to them for the concert and half for Zion to decide where it should go. Please come and enjoy their concert.

A Daily Discipleship, which is a take home Bible Study, will be on the bulletin board as to enter the church through the Winnebago Street doors. They are for you to take with you. It is also on the website in the section where the weekly bulletin is.

Thank you to everyone that has already donated to the neighborhood family. They really appreciate what we have given them. They are still in need of help so if you would like to help them you can either put money in an envelope marked neighborhood family or they can use gift cards to grocery stores, fuel & clothing stores.

The last week in September, Sept. 28 will be Church Camp Music Sunday. There will be a regular service that includes some camp songs. Come & enjoy the music and refreshments in the fellowship hall afterwards.

In the next coming weeks we will be including a survey insert and online to determine what time people prefer for the Christmas Eve service. Stay tune for more details.

On our website, zionappleton.org, we have links to different articles about churches like ELCA Global Mission, Seeds of the parish & Concordia. There are also pages for the affordable housing project and community events. We also have the messenger past & present & the bulletin past & present. Please take a look at all the information we have about Zion.

Lynn will be placing a gift card order on Sept. 19. If you would like to place an order please contact her. She will also have gift cards on hand to purchase in the narthex after the service. They are \$25 Kwik Trip, \$10 McDonalds, \$25 Menards, \$25 Piggly Wiggly, & \$25 Walgreens.

Linwood will be sponsoring a presentation at Linwood Community on Thursday, Sept. 18th at 11AM. The topic will be **fall prevention**. The staff of Gold Cross Ambulance will help you understand what causes falls and how to lower your risk.

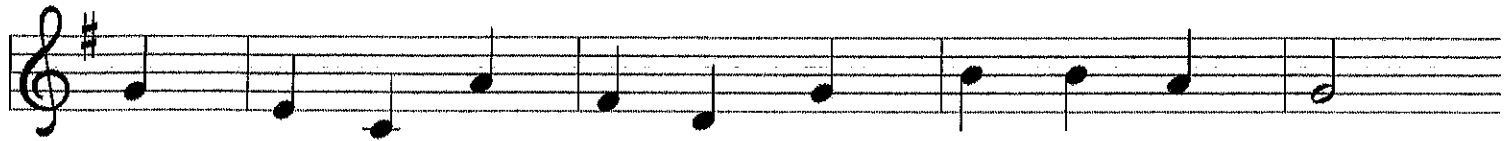
Linwood Community's last Summer Concert Series will be Sunday, Sept. 21st at 2:pm at Linwood Park Pavilion, 401 N. Douglas St. It will be **Remington's Ride Trio** which is vintage western swing and Dance Hall Honky Tonk. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy great music. A free will offering will be accepted to support the ministry of Linwood Community.

The Fox Valley Lions Medical Equipment Locker provides access to medical equipment without charge to the residents of the Fox Valley communities. They are always in need of new or used medical equipment. If you have any unused or unwanted medical equipment that is in good condition, please consider donating it to them. Hearing aid batteries can be donated at the locker, and people can come in when the locker is open and request free hearing aid batteries. Currently, there are 13, 312 and some 675 batteries. For more information, please visit their website: <https://sites.google.com/view/fvlml/home>.

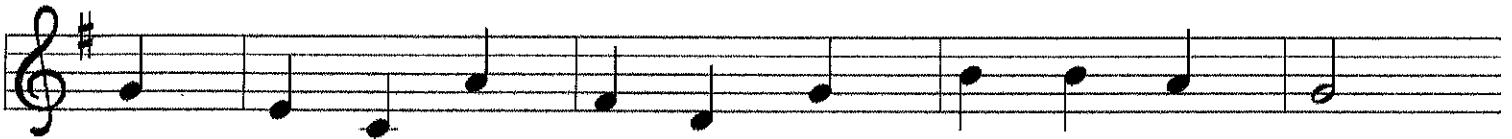
"The Center for Suicide Awareness is inviting anyone who has lost a loved one to suicide to join our monthly support group which is held on the second Monday of every month throughout the year beginning at 6:30pm at St. Joseph Parish, 404 W. Lawrence St., Appleton. The support group meets in the Holly Hall building which is located between the church and the parking lot. There is no pre-registration required. Just come."

Sunday, September 14	Lectionary 24 (Pentecost 17) Rally Sunday
Exod 32:7-14; Ps 51:1-10	Pastor Jan LaVake
1 Tim 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10	Assisting Minister: Tricia Staedt
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am	Acolyte: Freya Budde
Worship Service 9:00 am	Musician: Jim Schley
followed by	Opens: Greg Pettigrew
Coffee Hour	Closes: Tammy Mossholder
Sunday School & Confirmation	Greeters: Gary Busch, Linda Wirtz
Monday, September 15	Parish Council Meeting 6:30pm
Wednesday, September 17	Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm
Saturday, September 20	Northern Michigan University Concert 2:00pm
Sunday, September 21	Lectionary 25 (Pentecost 18)
Amos 8:4-7; Ps 113	Pastor Karen Jewell
1 Tim 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13	Assisting Minister: Tommy Meltz
Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am	Acolyte: Lily Gruselle
Worship Service 9:00 am	Musician: William Surtees
followed by	Opens and Closes: Jim Schley
Coffee Hour	Greeters: Jo Schiedermayer, Diane Moseng
Sunday School & Confirmation	

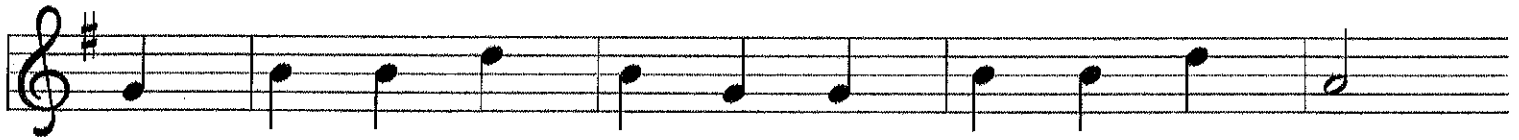
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



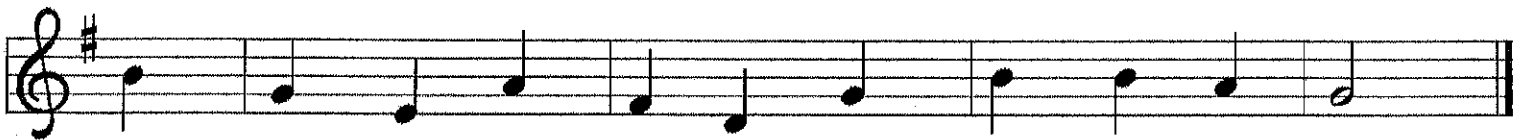
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



- 1 Sav - ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847

Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

Waterlife

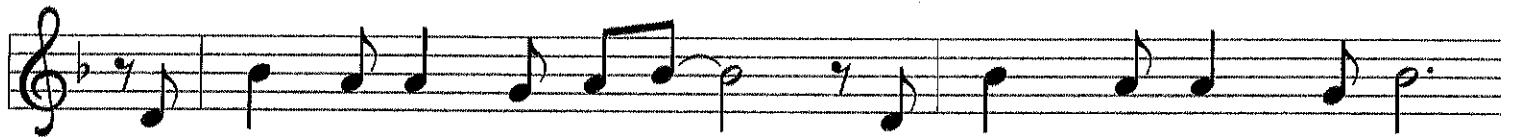
Leader or All



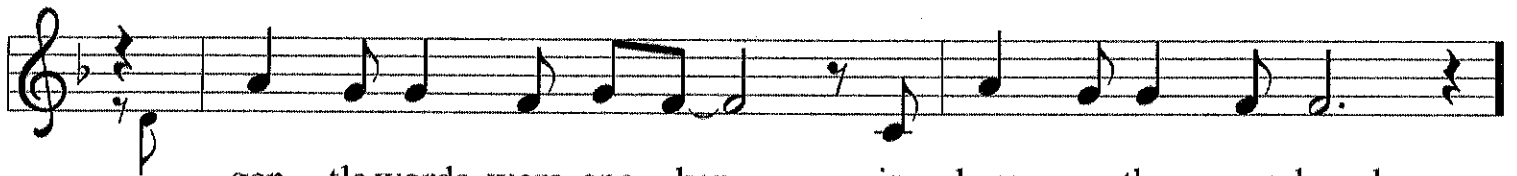
1 Be - fore I can re-mem-ber the cov - e - nant was sealed
2 A sim - ple sweet be - gin - ning, a lov - ing place to start:
3 My hope and ex - pec - ta - tion for true com-mun - i - ty



with Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, in wa - ter was re-vealed.
Christ be - gan the sing - ing that swells with-in my heart.
be - gins with res - ur - rec - tion, his death and life in me.



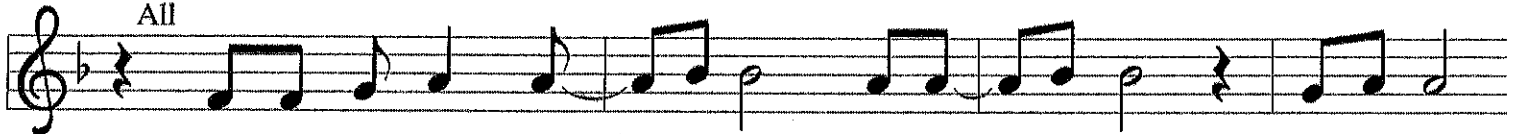
The cleans-ing was for cer - tain, with wa - ter and the Word;
His love be-came my call - ing, his life my min - is - try.
His Spir - it fills the Bod - y: his church through wa - ter sees



gen - tle words were spo - ken, in heav - en they were heard.
His name is my a - dop - tion in - to his fam - i - ly.
prom - ise for to - mor - row, his wa - ter-life in me.

Refrain

All



They were sing-ing wa - ter-life, be - gin - ning life, wa-ter - life



all my life, wa-ter-life, Spir - it life, wa - ter - life.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: SPIRIT LIFE, Handt Hanson

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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.



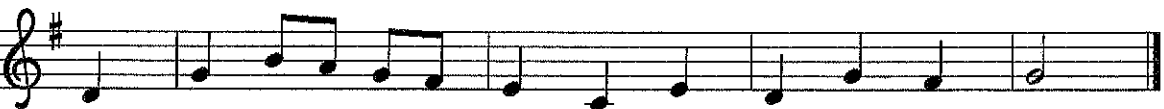
The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



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 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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