

Zion Lutheran

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



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 21, 2025

ORDER OF SERVICE

(The assembly speaks the bold print)

PRELUDE

"What does the Lord Require of You?"

Choir

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN #685

"Take My Life, That I May Be"

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

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Amos 8:4-7

A reading from Amos.

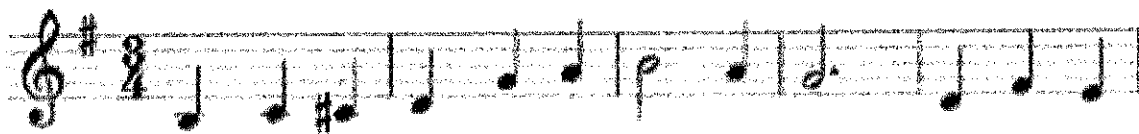
⁴ Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵ saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, ⁶ buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat." ⁷ The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

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

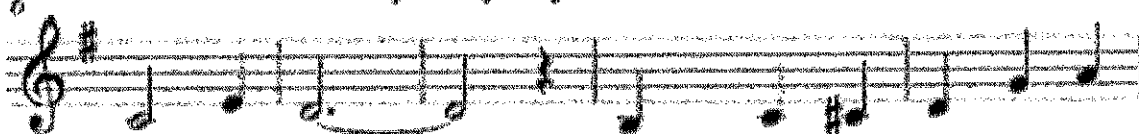
PSALM 113

"God Will Take Care of You"

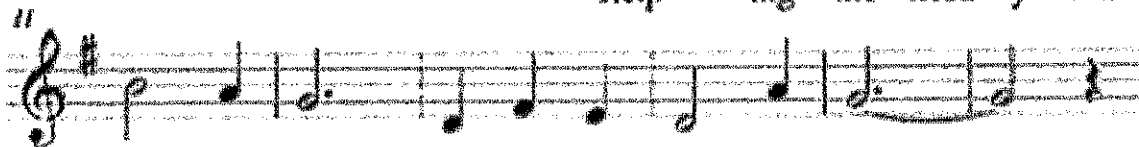
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From ear - ly morn to the set - ting sun:
Who then is seat - ed so high a - bove? God will take
Who lifts the poor peo - ple from the dust?



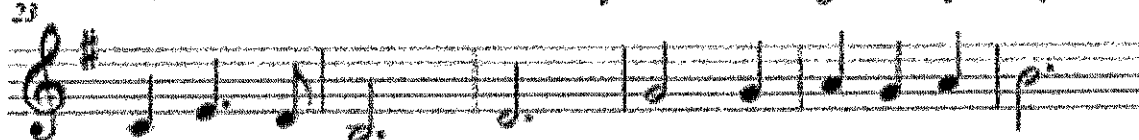
care of you. Through ev - 'ry day 'till our
Who looks up - on us with
Help - ing the need - y and



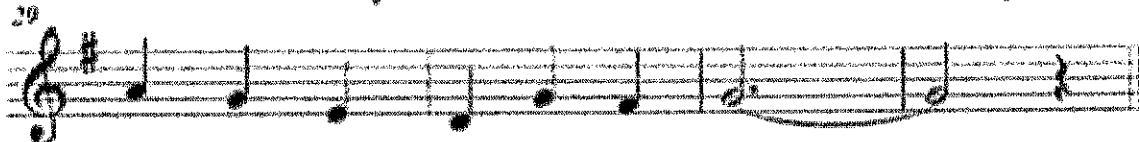
life is done:
ten - der love? God will take care of you.
all of us?



God will take care of you through ev - 'ry day.



o'er all the way. God will take care of you.



God will take care of you.

LY © 1989 John C. Ylvisaker
Music and Chorus Text "God Cares", W. S. Martin, 1904

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

A reading from 1 Timothy.

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers,
intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ² for
kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a
quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.

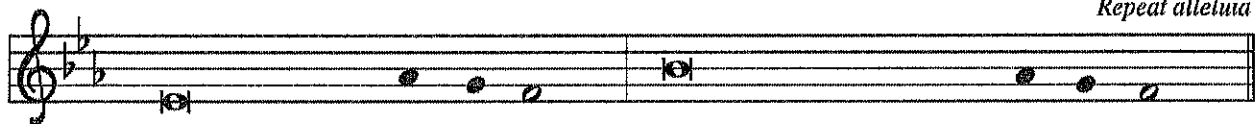
³ This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth. 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 16:1-13

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

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³ Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.'

⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ¹⁰ "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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

SERMON

Pastor Karen Jewell

HYMN OF THE DAY #589

"All Depends on Our Possessing"

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 MUSIC

"Lord, I Want to Be A Christian"

CHOIR

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.

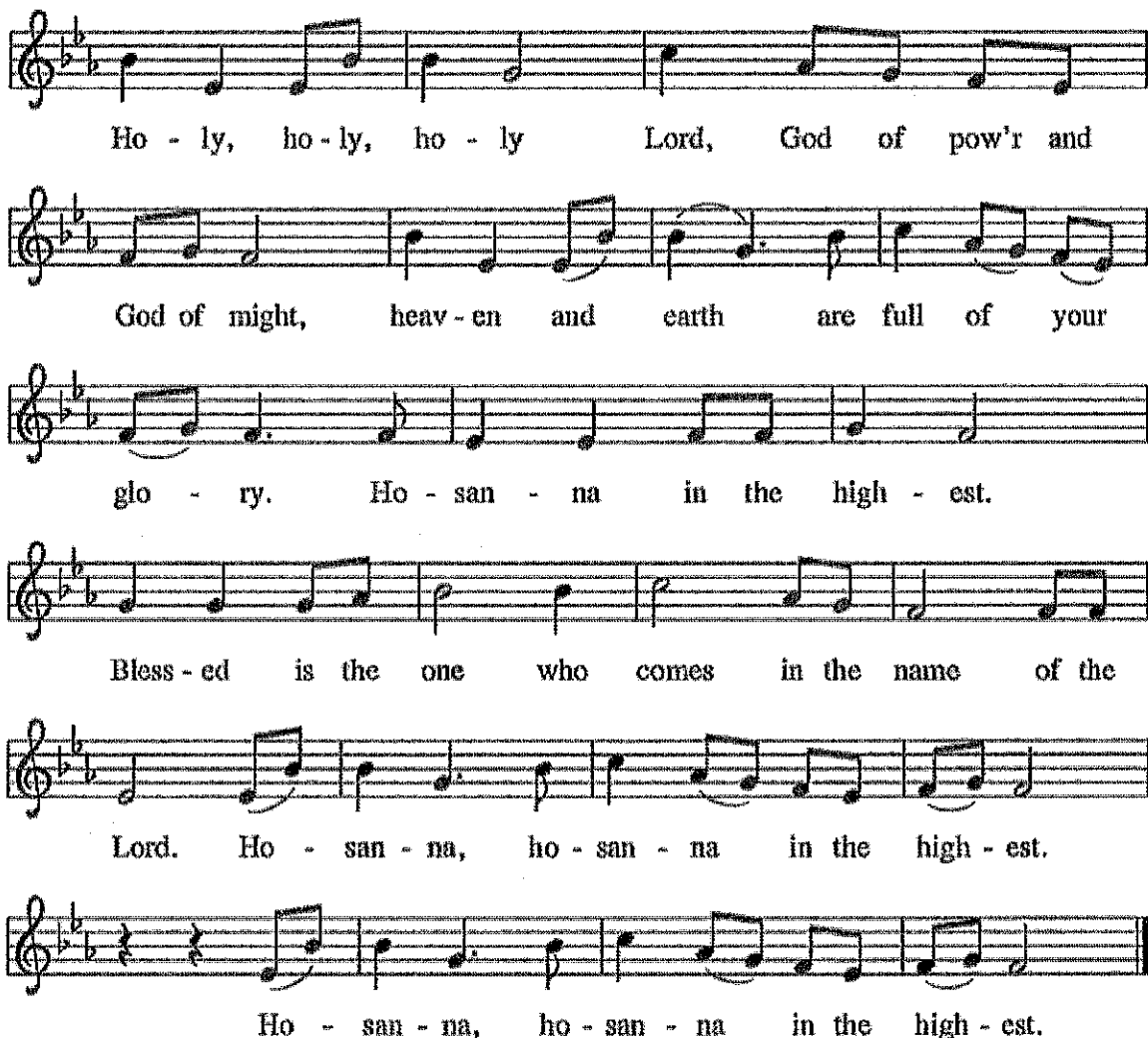
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 #465

"As the Grains of Wheat"

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 #710

"Let Streams of Living Justice"

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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Assisting Minister: Tommy Meltz

Acolyte: Lily Gruselle

Greeter: Jo Schiedermayer, Diane Moseng

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Church Administrator: Wendy Sachs wendy@zionappleton.org

Maintenance Engineer: Elliot Pegel

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

Worship & Music Coordinator: Heather Watney
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.

zion@zionappleton.org • www.zionappleton.org

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: 73

Last Year: 98

Announcements!

A congregational meeting of Zion Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, October 5, 2025 following the 9:00 service. The purpose of this meeting is a vote to call a new Pastor.

Next Sunday we will include a survey insert in your bulletin or you can do it online to vote what time you prefer for the Christmas Eve service.

Next Sunday 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.

Beginning next Sunday, September 28th, there will be a Bible Study in the Chapel hosted by Jon Meyer, looking at various Bible passages that deal with our stewardship, or "caretaking," of different facets and times of our lives. The sessions will be only a half-hour, from 10:30 to 11:00, and we will try to have some engaging discussion not only about the Scriptures, but in sharing some of our own experiences. If you'd like to participate, all you have to do is show up at the Chapel! There will be four sessions, Sept. 28, Oct. 5, 19, and 26. Each week we'll look at a different aspect of "caretaking": Time, Space, Poverty, and Abundance. Feel free to come to one week's meeting or to all of the sessions. Bring along your coffee and treats from Coffee Hour!

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.

A Daily Discipleship, which is a take home Bible Study, will be on the bulletin board as you 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.

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.

Lynn will 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.

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.

Today is the last Summer Concert Series for Linwood Community. It will be at 2:pm at Linwood Park Pavilion, 401 N. Douglas St. The group performing 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 Community Clothes Closet is having **Be a Pajama Hero** drive! It runs from September 25 to October 6. By contributing to the Be a Pajama Hero drive, you'll ensure children, teens, and adults have something cozy and new to wear at night. You can either donate \$25 which will provide a new set of pajamas for a client or you can purchase new pajamas in any size from infant to adult 3XL. Drop off locations are Fox River Mall, Community Clothes Closet, Gunderson Cleaners in Appleton, Neenah & Oshkosh or Maurices in Neenah & Oshkosh.

Linwood Community is inviting you to join their friend Michelle Graf, owner of Care Patrol, on Monday, October 7 at 10 AM where they will explore inspiring ways to "Live Our Best Life." Come enjoy snacks, engage in meaningful conversations, and participate in a bit of fun as we share experiences and support one another in enhancing our physical, mental, and social well-being. Joy and fellowship know no age limits at Linwood.

Sunday, September 21

Amos 8:4-7; Ps 113

1 Tim 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am

Worship Service 9:00 am

followed by

Coffee Hour

Sunday School & Confirmation

Lectionary 25 (Pentecost 15)

Pastor Karen Jewell

Assisting Minister: Tommy Meltz

Acolyte: Lily Gruselle

Musician: William Surtees

Opens and Closes: Jim Schley

Greeters: Jo Schiedermayer, Diane Moseng

Wednesday, September 24

Tower RingerZ Rehearsal 4:15pm

Sunday, September 28

Amos 6:1a, 4-7; Ps 113

1 Tim 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

Choir Rehearsal 8-8:45 am

Worship Service 9:00 am

followed by

Coffee Hour

Sunday School & Confirmation

Lectionary 26 (Pentecost 16) Camp Sunday

Vicar Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer

Assisting Minister: Gwen Schwandt

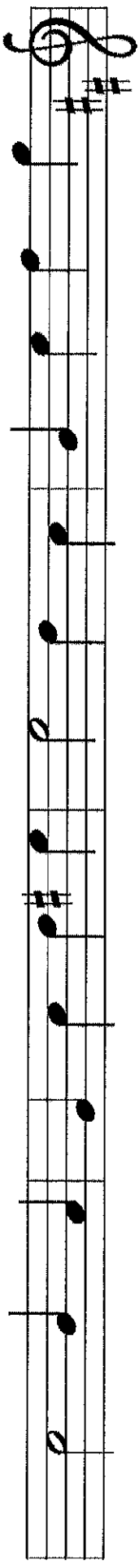
Musician: Heather Watney

Opens: Gene Wiese

Closes: Jodi Hoesli

Greeters: Elmer & Karen Luedtke

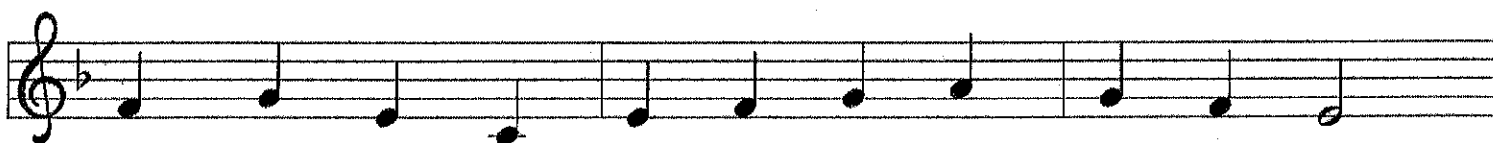
Take My Life, That I May Be



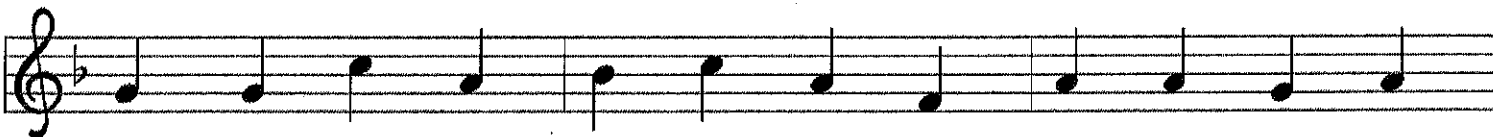
All Depends on Our Possessing



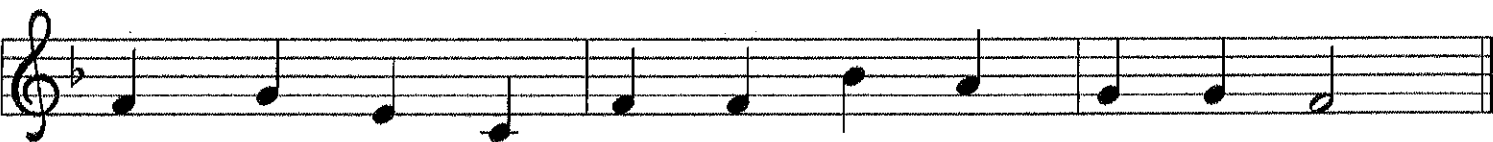
1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's free grace and
 2 God, who hith - er - to has fed me and to man - y
 3 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope my heart a -
 4 Well you know what best to grant me; all the long - ing
 5 If on earth my days should length - en, God, my wea - ry



con - stant bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
 joys has led me, is and ev - er shall be mine.
 new will quick - en, all my long - ing shall be stilled.
 hopes that haunt me, joy and sor - row, have their day.
 soul still strength - en; all my trust in you I place.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en by their God are
 God, who did so gent - ly school me and who dai - ly
 To your lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der all my be - ing
 I shall doubt your wis - dom nev - er; as you will, so
 Earth - ly wealth is not a - bid - ing; like a stream a -



not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.
 guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.
 I sur - ren - der; Lord, on you a - lone I build.
 be it ev - er; I com - mit to you my way.
 way it's glid - ing; safe I an - chor in your grace.

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain



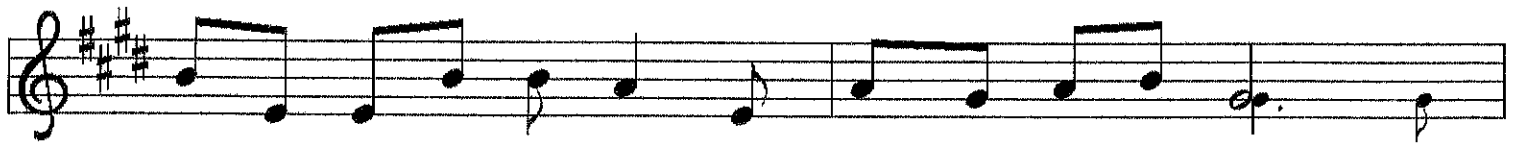
As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



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.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,

2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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Let Streams of Living Justice



1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;



give free-dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.



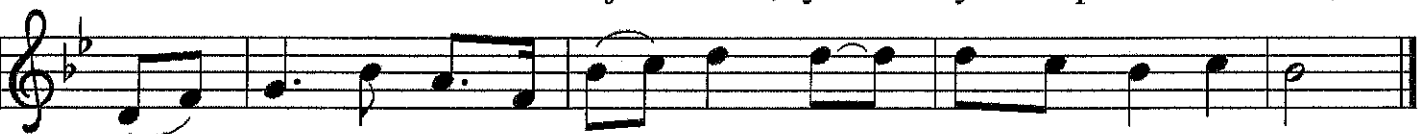
The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,



the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home-land bright-ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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