



# ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Proclaiming the Love of God for All People

**ELW HOLY COMMUNION SETTING ONE**

**Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

God promises Jeremiah that a "new covenant" will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and draws God's love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God's love with all the world.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Below are the hymn numbers for today's service:

#343

#379

#188

#465

#545

## PRELUDE

*(\*Please stand as you are able)*

## \*ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection. You are invited to kneel, stand, or sit.*

Holy God, **we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

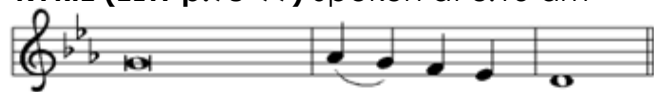
Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ☩ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN *My Song is Love Unknown* (ELW 343) vv.1 & 6 at 8:15**

## \*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.**

**\* KYRIE (ELW p.98-99)** Spoken at 8:15 am



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A: O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **Children are invited to go to Children's Church**

### **FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

*The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.*

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord.      **Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 51:1-12** (at 11:00)

*Create in me a clean heart, O God. (Ps. 51:10)*

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**<sup>2</sup>Wash me through and through from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my offenses,  
and my sin is ever before me.

**<sup>4</sup>Against you only have sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my mother's womb.

**<sup>6</sup>Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

**<sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my wickedness.

**<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

**<sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

## SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:5-10

*Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.*

<sup>5</sup>Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; <sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." <sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup>and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p.103) at 11:00



### \*GOSPEL John 12:20-33

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

*Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.*

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. <sup>27</sup>"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say— 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

PASTOR LESLEY M. RADIUS

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** *Now the Green Blad Rises (ELW 379)* vv.1 & 4 at 8:15

**\*THE 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.

**\*THE PRAYERS**

A: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

*A brief silence*

*For each petition:* Hear us, O God; **be near to us.**

P. Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

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

**GATHERING OF OFFERINGS-CHOIR ANTHEM** *Adoramus Te* by Theodore Dubois

**\*PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS** *Create in Me a Clean Heart (ELW 188)* at 11:00

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A. Let us pray. **Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

**\*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 our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p.112) Spoken at 8:15**



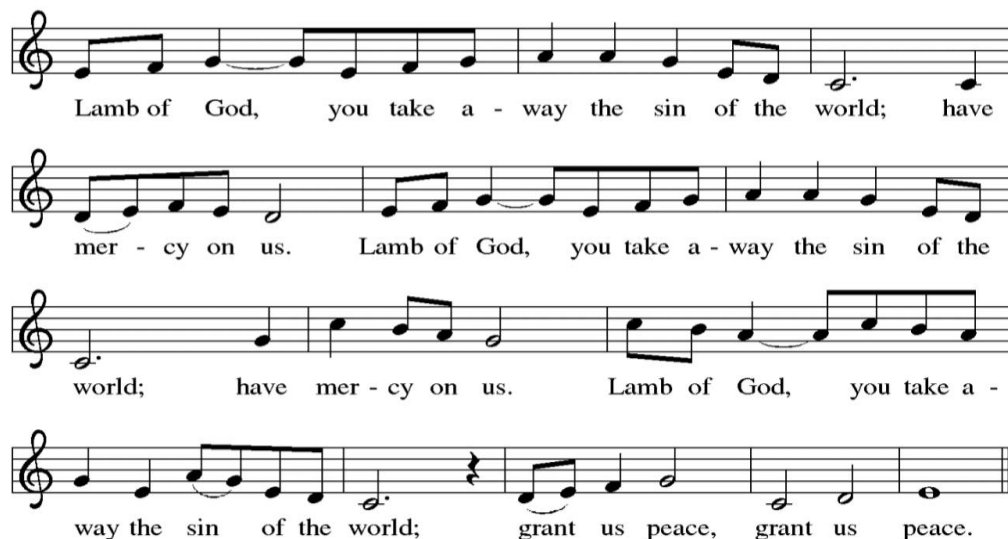
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**\*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**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 (ELW p.113) at 11:00 am**



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**

**COMMUNION HYMN *As the Grains of Wheat* (ELW 465) at 11:00**

**\*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE (ELW p.113) at 11:00**



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -

filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions

and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

**\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN *Lord, Dismiss us with Your Blessing* (ELW 545) vv.1 & 3 at 8:15**

**\*DISMISSAL**

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

**POSTLUDE**

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**Serving in Worship**

**Today, March 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Presiding Minister:** Pastor Lesley M. Radius  
**Assisting Minister:** Mark Vinciguerra  
**Music Director:** Adam Frame  
**Organist/Pianist:** John Wolf  
**Lector:** Cindy Kammer  
**Chancel Care:** Mary Weis  
**Ushers:** Peyton Frame & Tom Gluntz  
**Videographer:** Jacob Martella  
**Counters:** Faye Youngblood & Marcia Bogg

**Next Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**

Pastor Lesley M. Radius  
Steve Weis  
Adam Frame  
John Wolf  
Faye Youngblood  
Janice Kammer & Stella Hlad  
Jacob Martella  
Lisa Reed & Adrienne Frame

*We welcome all today and are thankful you have chosen to participate in this service as you are able. We pray you are blessed by what you experience. If you have any spiritual needs or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Lesley at [pastor@stmatthews-elca.org](mailto:pastor@stmatthews-elca.org) or call 817-292-1338. This service includes communion; if you are worshipping online, please have bread or crackers and wine or juice available to participate in the Eucharist.*

### **THIS WEEK WITH ST. MATTHEW'S**

#### **Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**

8:15 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's  
9:15 am St. Matthew's Adult Sunday School  
9:30 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Christopher  
11:00 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's

#### **Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 pm Candle Ridge Garden Club

#### **Wednesday March 20<sup>th</sup>**

5:30 pm Lenten Worship  
6:00 pm Lenten Soup Supper  
7:00 pm Lenten Bible Study  
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### **Thursday March 21<sup>st</sup>**

9:00 am Called to Craft Crafters Group

#### **Saturday March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

11:00 am Wedgwood Arts Gallery

#### **Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**

9:15 am St. Matthew's Adult Sunday School  
9:30 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Christopher  
11:00 am Eucharistic Worship led by St. Matthew's  
3:00 pm Wedgwood Arts @Advent Lutheran Lux Aeterna Concert

**Palm Sunday** Next Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate Palm Sunday with "The Cry of the Whole Congregation" by Walter Wangerin, Jr. Each worshipper will discover their own rootedness in the drama which is Christ's so that the passion story is not merely observed but embraced. All senses will be enlisted, sight, sound and rhythm of both music and motion.

**Wedgwood Arts at Advent Lutheran** Next Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup>, Wedgwood Arts and SMLC Choir will present Lux Aeterna by Morton Lauridson in partnership with Advent's Festival Choir. Please join us at 3:00 pm 3232 S. Cooper St. Arlington 76015. This will be a beautiful production sure to ready your heart, mind, and spirit as we enter into Holy Week. This is a free of charge event.

**Wedgwood Arts Gallery** In addition to Fort Worth's city wide annual "Gallery Night," this Saturday March 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Matthew's will host our own "Arts Gallery". Please stop by SMLC fellowship hall any time between 11:00 am-5:00 pm to view various works from local artists. Bring a friend to enjoy artwork and complimentary wine and cheese. All works will be available to purchase.



**Thrivent Choice Dollars** A reminder to our congregants who are Thrivent members. Thrivent Choice Dollars expire on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Please put your dollars to good use via St. Matthew's or to a worthy nonprofit of your choice. Another way to do God's work with our hands!

**From our Fellowship Chairperson** We will have brunch food and coffee throughout Easter morning. Please bring a dish according to last name if you are able for the service you are attending. Food may also be left in the church kitchen the day before.

A-K: donuts, pastries, bagel, cream cheese, or muffins

L-R: egg casserole, deviled eggs, ham slices, sausage rolls, or any protein

S-Z: fruit Salad or whole fruit bananas, oranges, grapes, etc.

**Easter Candy Needed** We are now accepting donations of Easter candy for the Easter Egg Hunt we will have Easter morning at 10:30 am. Please place your donations in the designated basket in the narthex. Thank you in advance!

**Holy Week and Easter at St. Matthew's** Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on March 24<sup>th</sup> at our 11:00 am service. On March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm we will have a service to honor Maundy Thursday – a commemoration of Jesus' last night where he washed his disciples' feet and instituted the sacrament of Holy Communion. On Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, we will have a 7:00 pm Service of Light and Darkness (Tenebrae) with John's Passion story. On Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, we will have an outdoor "Sonrise" Service at 7:00 am and a festival worship service later that morning at 11:00 am. Between the 7:30 am and 10:30 am Easter services there will be an egg hunt at 10:30 am and an ongoing time for fellowship and brunch.

**Nursery Care and Activity Bags** at St. Matthew's, children of all ages are welcome in worship. If parents prefer, nursery care is provided for infants through age 4 during the 11:00 am service. Activity bags and children's bulletins are available in the narthex for children ages 5 and older to take into worship until they go to Children's Church. Please return the bags after worship

**We Pray For:**

**Craig Bridges**

**T. J. Bridges**

**Annasophia Reese**

**George & Roberta Dennis**

**Kathy Challgren**

**George Wiederaenders**

**Jeanne Rose**

**Patti Brunnert**

**Norma Morrow**

**Karen Presley**

**Mike Haro**

**Christy Hill**

Daughter of Win & Sandy Heinrich

**Rachel Riddle**

Mother of Dustin Riddle

**Emmalea Eaves**

Cousin of Karin Dunker

**We Pray For:**

**Jane Oklat**

**Thara Bonebreak**

Aunt of Anne Moroneso

**Annie Breakspear**

Daughter-in-law of Pauline Christensen

**Kelbey Wells**

Friend of the Hadfield's

**Gail Hall**

Friend of Barry & Cindy Kammer

**Timmy Crawford**

Friend of Adam Frame

**Nicholas Kammer**

**Hayden June**

Friend of Ferrol Miller & The Gustafsons

**David Eaves**

Cousin of Karin Dunker

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**(More details to follow, but please reserve these dates in your calendars now!)**

**Every Tuesday 7 pm**—Sounds of Exaltation Handbell Choir rehearsal.

**Every Wednesday 7 pm**—Chancel Choir rehearsal

**Every Thursday 9 am**—Called to Craft Crafters Group

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>**- Wedgwood Arts Gallery, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

**March 24<sup>th</sup>**- Wedgwood Arts at Advent Lutheran, 3:00 pm

**March 26<sup>th</sup>**- Women's Bible Study, 10:00 am

**March 28<sup>th</sup>**- Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30 pm

**March 29<sup>th</sup>**- Good Friday Service of Light and Dark, 7:00 pm

**March 31<sup>st</sup>**- Easter Sunday – Services at 7:00 am & 11:00 am, Brunch from 7:30-10:30 am,  
Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30 am

**April 28<sup>th</sup>**- Wedgwood Arts Presents Actor Garrett Hollowell, 4:00 pm

**May 19<sup>th</sup>**- Wedgwood Arts Presents FWSO Oboist Tamer Edlebi, 4:00 pm

**July 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>** Bill Anderson Memorial Summer Cooking Camp

**July 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>** Bill Anderson Memorial Summer Music Camp

# ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Proclaiming the Love of God for All People

## ST. MATTHEW'S MISSION STATEMENT

**Living in Christ through faith. Living for neighbor through love.**

***We are Reconciling in Christ, welcoming to all!***

Rev. Lesley M. Radius | [pastor@stmatthews-elca.org](mailto:pastor@stmatthews-elca.org)

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# My Song Is Love Unknown



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to  
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -  
 3 Some - times we strew his way and his sweet prais - es  
 4 We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made a -

me, love to the love - less shown that they might love - ly  
 stow; the world that was his own would not its Sav - ior  
 sing; re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to our  
 way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of life to

be. Oh, who am I that for my sake my  
 know. But, oh, my friend, my friend in - deed, who  
 king. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all our breath, and  
 slay. Yet cheer - ful he to suf - f'ring goes that

Lord should take frail flesh and die?  
 at my need his life did spend!  
 for his death we thirst and cry.  
 he his foes from thence might free.

5 In life no house, no home  
 my Lord on earth might have;  
 in death no friendly tomb  
 but what a stranger gave.  
 What may I say? Heav'n was his home  
 but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

6 Here might I stay and sing—  
 no story so divine!  
 Never was love, dear King,  
 never was grief like thine.  
 This is my friend, in whose sweet praise  
 I all my days could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, alt.

Music: LOVE UNKNOWN, John Ireland

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## Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

## Create in Me a Clean Heart



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your



pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -



store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,



and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## 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



*Refrain*

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

## Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.  
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.  
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav-'ling through this wil - der-ness.  
Ev - er faith-ful, ev - er faith-ful to your truth may we be found.  
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end-less day.