



## Liturgy and Worship

“Freely you have received, freely give.”  
– Matthew 10:8 (NIV)

2018 Council Meeting  
Ecumenical Centre, Geneva, Switzerland  
27 June – 2 July, 2018



THE  
LUTHERAN  
WORLD  
FEDERATION

A Communion  
of Churches

# Morning Prayer, Wednesday 27 June

*This week in the ecumenical prayer cycle, we pray for Kenya and Tanzania*

*We open with the sound of a gong*

*We sing (1<sup>st</sup> verse in Swahili)*

Wilson Niwagila: Tanzania

Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho Mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji - wa - tu. Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi-  
Come a - mong us, lov - ing Spir - it, touch us and make us whole. Show us glimp - ses of the

**Refrain**

ngu - ni. Tu - we wa - tu wa - pya. Njo - o, njo - o, njoo, Ro - ho Mwe - ma.  
King - dom, use us to spread its rule. Lov - ing Spir - it, fill us with your life.

© 1989 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, ELCT., P.O. Box 55, Usa River, Tanzania. English Fred Kaan © 1990 Stainer & Bell, England.

2. Utufanye waamini Wa Yesu Mwokozi.  
Tukaishi kikundini, Kanisani mwako.

2. Loving Spirit, come and kindle faith in our Lord, God's Son.  
Make your people in their worship and in their action one.

3. Roho Mwema, Mfariji, Utupe hekima;  
Tukiwaza na kutenda, Yote yawe yako.

3. Loving Spirit, let your wisdom guide what we think and do.  
Make us willing and responsive as you make all things new.

4. Tudumishe, tuwe hai Na ukweli wako.  
Tusivutwe na dunia, Tushu'die neema.

4. From the grip of fear and conflict, Spirit, your world release.  
Help your people to discover things that will make for peace.

*Liturgist: Ms Desri Sumbayak, The Indonesian Christian Church*

## Psalm 18:

God my friend,  
You give me strength.

God, my shield, my help,  
You watch over me.

You bring me out into a broad place  
Because you delight in me.

It is you who light my lamp.  
You light up my darkness.

By you, God, I can leap over a wall.

For this I will extol you in the morning and in the evening, now and always. Amen.

## Scripture reading: Mark 4:35-41

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on

the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

## **Meditation**

### **Prayers**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

We thank you, God, for the night's rest, for the hours of sleep and dream.

**Open our minds and hearts to all we meet today.**

We are grateful for safe travel, which has brought each of us from homes and places of vocation, to be united in this community of faith and practice.

**God send your Spirit to sustain us in the faithful work that is ahead of us.**

We are one with each other.

**Show us the people to serve and the work we are to do.**

We cannot live by ourselves.

**God, be near us and lift us up.**

Walk with us,

**Step by step, hour by hour.**

We pray to God, our light and salvation, in the words Jesus taught us, each in our own language.

**Our Father in heaven...**

*We sing (In Norwegian or English)*

Norwegian: Svein Ellingsen. English Hedwig T. Durnbaugh

Trond Kverno: Norway

1. Vi rek - ker vå - re hen - der frem som tom - me skå - ler. Kom  
1. We raise our hands to you, O Lord, like emp - ty ves - sels. Come

til oss, Gud, og gi oss liv fra kil - der u - ten - for oss selv.  
to us, God, and give us life from springs where liv - ing wa - ters flow.

2. Alt godt, til vårt og andres vel, er dine gaver.  
I svakhet fremmer du ditt verk,  
vår bare kvist skal skyte knopp!

2. What good and blessing you bestow is freely given.  
Your power will make the weakest strong and barren branches start to bud.

3. Vi løfter våre hender opp i bønn for verden.  
La dem som lider, finne vern mot kalde hjerters is og sne!

3. We lift our hands to you, O God, our world upholding.  
Let those who suffer shelter find from human hearts of ice and snow.

4. La våre hendens nakne tre få blomst og blader.  
La våre liv få bære frukt til legedom for andres sår!

4. O make our barren trees to grow our hands to blossom,  
and let our lives bring forth such fruit  
that heals our neighbour's grief and pain.

5. Vi venter, etter smertens vår, din nådes sommer.  
Og sorg og glede blir til verkt med frukt vi ikke selv kan se.

5. As summer follows springtime's rain, so grace to sorrow  
and grief and joy shall bear much fruit, though hidden from our human eyes.

6. Din nådes skaperverk skal skje i tomme hender.  
O Gud, all godhets giver: Kom, ta bolig i vår fattigdom!

6. Through grace your new creation lies in open, empty hands.  
God, giver of all goodness, come, dwell with us in our earthly home!

Permission rcd: Mel. Trond Kverno, text Svein Ellingsen, Eng. trans. T. Durnbaugh © Copyright Norsk Musikforlag AS, Oslo, Norway. www.musikkforlagene.no Printed with permission.

Gracious God, we thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You kept us safe from all evil and danger last night. Save us, we pray, today as well, from every evil and sin, so that all we do and the way that we live will please you. We put ourselves in your care, body and soul and all that we have. Let Your holy Angels be with us, so that the evil one will not gain power over us. Amen.

## Benediction

## Sending

Go in peace to love and serve God and neighbor!  
Thanks be to God!

# Opening Worship, Thursday, 28 June

*Liturgist: Ms Cheryl Philip, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

*We open with the sound of a gong*

Liberated,  
for freedom, Christ has set us free.

Liberated by God  
we stand firm.

Liberated by God's grace  
we dare not submit again to the yoke of slavery.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the seed of new life growing in us,

the love of God,  
binding us together

and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
sending us to proclaim liberty to the captives

is with us here.

*We sing*

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three systems, each with a Leader part and a People part. The lyrics are: "1. Come, let us wor - ship God! Come, let us wor - ship God! Wel - come ev' - ry - one, wel - come ev' - ry - one to the love of God, to the love of God." The first system is marked with a "1" and the second with a "3". The third system is marked with a "5".

**Leader** **People**

1. Come, let us wor - ship God! Come, let us wor - ship God!

**3** **Leader** **People**

Wel - come ev' - ry - one, wel - come ev' - ry - one

**5** **Leader** **People**

to the love of God, to the love of God.

2. Food for the hungry.

3. Rest for the weary.

4. Hope for the children.

Where two or three are gathered together in my name,  
**there am I in the midst of them.**

I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received, being humble and gentle,  
eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

**Let us pursue justice and peace, for mutual up-building.**

Let us pray. Lord God, send your Holy Spirit upon us and this Council Meeting that we  
may discern your will, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

***Sung Response: Lord Have Mercy***

Mabel Wu: Hong Kong

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ have mer - cy. Lord have mer - cy.  
Ky - rie\_e - le - i - son. Chris - te\_e - le - i - son. Ky - rie\_e - le - i - son.

The musical notation is a single line of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three phrases, each with a melody line and a corresponding lyric line below it. The first phrase is 'Lord, have mercy. Kyrie-e-lei-son.' The second phrase is 'Christ have mercy. Christe-e-lei-son.' The third phrase is 'Lord have mercy. Kyrie-e-lei-son.' The melody is simple and melodic, with a final cadence at the end.

Hymns of Praise #560, Melody by Mabel Wu, ©1994 Taosheng Publishing house Hong Kong.

For peace as we meet together, for integrity of spirit and open hearts, for the compassion  
that leads to unity, let us pray to the Lord.

***Sung Response: Lord Have Mercy***

For the unity of your church, rejoicing in the varieties of the gifts of the spirit, manifested  
as it witnesses to the one body of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

***Sung Response: Lord Have Mercy***

For an end to war, and a common commitment to making peace, for a renewed respect  
for those who are different, for an end to hatred and just reconciliations that  
undercut strife, let us pray to the Lord.

***Sung Response: Lord Have Mercy***

For this holy gathering, and for all the songs and prayers offered here, let us pray to the  
Lord.

***Sung Response: Lord Have Mercy***

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## Gloria (in Spanish)

Luke 2:14  
*Cueca* E ♩ = 72 B7 E Pablo Sosa: Argentina

La, la, la

Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria  
 Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria

en las al - tu - ras a Dios. Y en la tie - rra paz pa - ra a - que - llos  
 glo - ry to God on high. And on earth peace to the peo - ple in

que a - ma el Se - ñor. whom God is well pleased. Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria.

For the ending repeat 2 times each time softer

## Prayer of the day

The Lord be with you.  
 And also with you.

Let us pray:

Great Liberator, bearing fruit from every seed resisting wrong, standing firm for justice like a well-watered tree, branching out with leaves for the healing of the nations: grace us with the freedom to give ourselves away because of the nearness of your beloved, Jesus Christ, our judge and our redeemer, this day and always.

Amen

## Scripture reading: Matthew 10:2-8

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

## Sermon

Rev. Yonas Yigezu Dibisi, Evangelical Lutheran Church Mekane Yesus, Ethiopia

## 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 light, of wind, of water, word, wine and bread, we are grateful that you reveal your abundant presence in the gifts of life giving community. From your communion of love, you made your creatures with senses, by which we receive your blessings. As creatures, some of our senses may be diminished or impaired, while some of our senses are clear and profound. But we give thanks that you are a God who wants to be known, and reveals your presence in ways that we can perceive. While we gather as a Communion of churches, inspire our senses to receive your gifts, and to share the gift in ways that others can receive.



God, we sense your peace and power  
In this place we meet to pray.  
We are moved by gentle fragrance;  
We are blessed by healing touch.  
In this place we hear the gospel;  
We see life beyond compare.  
Here we gather at your table,  
Tasting love in meals we share.

*adapted from words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette NETTLETON 8.7.8.7 D ("Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing")*

We thank you for the gift of languages and hearing. By your creative Word you made. By your non-violent Word you redeemed. By your Spirit you inspire the gift of faith, and enlighten us through teaching, preaching, the sounds of creation and tender words spoken to one another and in prayer. We reject violent words that create fear, demean, exclude or abuse. We pray for non-violent communication, that we would speak words that do not come back empty, but create bonds of love and inclusion. Lord, speak to us that we may speak.

God, your world is filled with music  
That can take our breath away —  
Loud and bold, or therapeutic,  
Some from near, some faraway.  
Rock or rap or gospel chorus,  
You can bless and use them all.  
Music is a gift you give us;  
Through it, may we hear your call.

We thank you for our sense of taste. You made the garden flourish so that all may be fed, and you feed all living things with good food. On our tongues we taste your abundant goodness. We recognize that there is enough, and yet a few of us take too much, while many taste the bitterness of hunger. We pray that we may learn to sow and harvest within the limits of our earth so that the face of the earth can be renewed and continue to provide for all creatures. We pray that we would only eat enough, and freely share the fruits of the earth so that all may be fed.

God of love, we taste your bounty  
At the table you prepare.  
Here we find there's food a-plenty  
That we're called to eat and share.  
There is bread and cup for feasting,  
There is food for rich and poor;  
May we taste your love and blessing  
Now, and — yes — forevermore!

God of creation, incarnation and redemption, we praise you for the countries and nations that we lift before you this week in our ecumenical prayer cycle: Kenya and Tanzania. We thank you for the richness of these lands, the people, cultures, and vibrant faith. We are grateful for the gifts that they offer to our communion. And today, we thank you that we gather here as leaders from among our communion,

which you continually renew with your free Spirit. Help us to freely give to our world what you have first given us. Sharpen our senses so that we may discern your loving presence here among us, and freely share it with others in ways that they can know the joy of your life giving and reconciling peace.

Amen.

## Peace

The peace of our Lord be with you all,  
And also with you.

Having freely received Christ's peace, let us share a sign of Christ's Peace with one another.

## Setting the Table (1<sup>st</sup> verse in Spanish)

Guillermo Cuéllar. English Bret Hesla and William Dexheimer Pharris

Guillermo Cuéllar: Missa popular salvadoreña

Va-mos to - dos al ban-que - te, a la me - sa de la crea-ción, ca - da cual con su ta - bu - re - te, tie-ne un  
Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is wait - ing; come, ev - ery -

pues - to y u - na mi - sión. Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no, ya me es - pe - ra la co - mu -  
one, with your gifts to share. I will rise in the ear - ly mor - ning; the com - mu - ni - ty's wait - ing

ni - dad, voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.  
for me. With a spring in my step I'm wal - king with my friends and my fá - mi - ly.

Spanish, English and Music © 1996 G.I.A. Publications, Inc. 'Printed under One License Lutheran World Federation Assembly', E-803640 for May 10, 2017 - May 17, 2017

2. Dios invita\_a todos los pobres, a\_esta mesa común por la fe, 2. God invites all the poor and hungry to the banquet of justice and good  
donde no\_hay acaparadores, y\_a nadie le falta\_el conqué. where the harvest will not be hoarded so that no one will lack for food.

3. Dios nos manda\_a hacer de\_este mundo, 3. May we build such a place among us where all people are equal in love.  
una mesa donde\_haya\_igualdad, God has called us to work together and to share everything we have.  
trabajando\_y luchando juntos, compartiendo la propiedad.

## Meal

Rev. Karla Steilmann, Evangelical Church of the River Plate, Argentina

What a joy that as brothers and sisters in the faith we can come together in this beautiful and diverse community and celebrate together the sacrament of Holy Communion! What a blessing that we can meet around the Lord's table and commemorate that for himself was instituted! It is really gratifying to know that when we share bread and wine, something wonderful happens, because at the same time that we enter into communion with each other we also enter into communion with him! That's why brothers and sisters:

Let us lift up our hearts!  
We lift them to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to our God!  
It is right to give God our praise!

## Preface

It is truly worthy, just and good that at all times we give you thanks, praise you and glorify you our God. So, preparing for this Communion, I invite you to have a moment of joint prayer.

Let us pray: Merciful God, we come to you in prayer to say that we are eternally grateful to you because incarnate in the person of Jesus, you have left us a legacy of love, mercy and grace fulfilled in the sacrifice you carried out for us on the cross. We are grateful because you have taught us that by sharing with those in need, with the weakest and the excluded, we share with you and enter into communion with you.

We ask you Lord, to make yourself present among us as we celebrate and share in this sacrament. Lord, let this be a moment of deep communion in which we can feel among ourselves and in sharing wine, bread and faith we can enter into deep communion with you.

In this bread and this wine let us celebrate the memory that you have become flesh and come to this world to make yourself a reality in our realities, to accompany and guide us day by day.

Lord, you who are Holy, allow our minds and our hearts to open in order to praise you, and to be able to recognize you in our brothers and sisters. In you we place our faith, our hopes and our trust. And that's why we sing to you :

## Sanctus (in Spanish)

Flowing Argentina

*C* = 64

San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra!  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you!  
Hei - lig, hei - lig, hei - lig. Mein Herz, es be - tet dich an!  
Dieu saint, Dieu saint, Dieu saint: Mon coeur, mon coeur t'a - do - re,  
Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res Se - ñor!  
My heart knows how to say you: Ho - ly are you, Lord!  
Es weiß, was es dir sa - gen will: Hei - lig bist du Gott!  
mon coeur le sait, mon coeur te le dit: sa - cré est ton nom.

French, Joëlle Gouffé © 1990 WCC 150, Route de Ferney, 1211, Geneva, Switzerland. Deutsch, Wolfgang Leyk.

## Eucharistic Prayer

Together we remember what the Apostle Paul taught us through the 1 letter to the Corinthians saying:

That the Lord Jesus, on the night he was delivered, took bread; And when he had given thanks, he broke it (and shared it) and said: "Take, eat; this is my body that is delivered for you; do this in remembrance of me. " He also took the cup, after he had eaten, and said," This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this every time you drink it, in memory of me."

# Lord's Prayer (in our many languages)

Our Father in heaven...

## Agnus Dei

*Oi, Jumalan Karitsa (in Finnish)*

Finland



1 Oi, Ju-ma-lan Ka - rit - sa, io - ka pois o - tat  
2 O du Lamm Got - tes, der du weg-nimmst die  
3 O, Lamb of God, you who take a -  
maa-il man syn - nin, ar-mah - da mei-tä, ar-mah - da  
Sün-de der Welt, er-barm dich un-ser, er-barm dich  
way the world's sin: on us have mer-cy, on us have  
mei - tä. Oi, Ju-ma-lan Ka - rit - sa, io - ka  
un - ser. O du Lamm Got - tes, der du  
mer - cy. O, Lamb of God, you who  
pois o - tat maa il-man syn - nin, an - na meil - le  
weg-nimmst die Sün-de der Welt, gib uns Frie-den,  
take a - way the world's sin: grant us peace,  
rau - ha - si ja siu - na - uk - se - si.  
dein Recht gib uns, gib uns den wah - ren Frie - den.  
grant- us ju-justice, grant us your own true peace.

1 = finnisch, 2 = deutsch, 3 = englisch

Text und Melodie: Matti Rantatalo, 2: Dieter Trautwein, 3: Terry MacArthur.  
© Kirjapaja Helsinki © 3: World Council of Churches, Genf

The Lord is the one who invites us and says: "Come to me all those who are tired from their labour and burdens and I will give them rest." Come, the table is served and it is the Lord who invites you to share it. Amen.

# Communion

The body and blood of Christ is freely given!  
All are invited to freely receive!

Come for all is ready.

*You are invited to receive the bread and wine from the stations.*

## Songs during communion

### Come, let us eat

Billema Kwillia verses 1-3. Gilbert E. Doan Jr. verse 4

Billema Kwillia: Tanzania

*First time leader second time congregation.*



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Come, let us eat for now the feast is spread.         | Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.      |
| 2. Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.       | Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er. |
| 3. In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,        | In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.        |
| 4. Rise, then and spread a - broad God's might - y word. | Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.     |

Verses 1-3 and melody © Lutheran World Federation. Verse 4 © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Verse 4 printed under One License Lutheran World Federation Assembly, E-803640 for May 10, 2017 - May 17, 2017

### Eat this bread, drink this cup

Jacques Berthier: Taizé, France

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

Music J. Berthier © Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, 71250 Taizé-Communauté, France.

# Laudate Omnes Gentes

Psalm 117:1 ♩ = 63

Jacques Berthier: Taizé, France

Lau - da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num.  
 Sing prais - es all you peo - ple, sing prais - es to the Lord.  
 Lob - singt, ihr Völ - ker al - le, Lob - singt und presit den Hern.  
 A - la - be, todo el mun - do, a - la - be al Se - ñor.  
 Lou - ez Dieu tous les peu - ples, lou - ez no - tre Sei - gneur.  
 Sla - vi - ti Si - na Ro - da, sla - vi - ta Gos - po - da.

Lau - da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num!  
 Sing prais - es all you peo - ple, sing prais - es to the Lord.  
 Lob - singt, ihr Völ - ker al - le, Lob - singt und presit den Hern.  
 A - la - be, todo el mun - do, a - la - be al Se - ñor.  
 Lou - ez Dieu tous les peu - ples, lou - ez no - tre Sei - gneur.  
 Sla - vi - ti Si - na Ro - da, sla - vi - ta Gos - po - da.

# One Bread, One Body

*Refrain*

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all;

one cup of bless - ing which we bless,

and we, though man-y through-out the earth,

**Chords:** G C/G GM<sup>7</sup> C/G G D Em B Em D G Em A D D<sup>7</sup>

The musical score is presented in three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are placed below the vocal line. Chord symbols are placed above the piano accompaniment. The first system is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the lyrics 'One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all;'. The second system contains the lyrics 'one cup of bless - ing which we bless,'. The third system contains the lyrics 'and we, though man-y through-out the earth,'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

Em D G Em A D G C/G G

1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,  
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
3 Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,

Em D Em D

wom - an or man, no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath - ered to one for all.

Em F Am D

*Refrain*

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939  
 Music: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939  
 © 1978, 1989 John B. Foley and New Dawn Music

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY  
 4 4 6 and refrain

## Post-Communion Prayer

God of grace, in this meal you liberate us from all that holds us captive. Give us a foretaste of that community reconciled in you. Send us forth to make known your deeds Proclaiming in our lives your forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



## Benediction

Praise be you, O God, you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away!

**Amen!**

Praise be you, O God, who blots out our transgressions, who answers prayer and to whom all peoples come!

**Amen!**

Praise be you, O God, your paths overflow with plenty and you cover all the earth in mercy.

**Amen!**

Holy God, Three in One, Father, Son and Holy Spirit (+) bless and preserve you, this day and all days, now and forever!

**Amen!**

We sing

### *Nun bitten Wir den Heiligen Geist (1<sup>st</sup> verse in German)*

Medieval German *Leise*, st. 1, st. 2-4 Martin Luther

J. Walter: Germany 1524

1. Nun bit - ten wir den Hei - li - gen Geist um den rech - ten Glau - ben al - ler - meist,  
1. Now to the Ho - ly Spir - it let us pray for true faith, most need - ed on our way:

daß er uns be - hü - te an un - serm En - de, wenn wir heim - fahrn aus die - sem E - len - de. Ky - ri - e - leis.  
Guide us and de - fend us when life is end - ing and our jour - ney home - ward is tend - ing. Lord, have mer - cy!

2. Du wertest Licht, gib uns deinen Schein,  
lehr uns Jesus Christ kennen allein,  
daß wir an ihm bleiben, dem treuen Heiland,  
der uns bracht hat zum rechten Vaterland. Kyrieleis.

2. O sweetest Love, your grace on us bestow;  
set our hearts with sacred fire aglow,  
that with hearts united we love each other,  
every stranger, sister, and brother. Lord, have mercy!

3. Du süße Lieb, schenk uns deine Gunst,  
laß uns empfinden der Lieb Inbrunst,  
daß wir uns von Herzen einander lieben  
und im Frieden auf einem Sinn bleiben. Kyrieleis.

3. Transcendent comfort in our every need,  
help us neither scorn nor death to heed,  
that we may not falter, nor courage fail us  
when the foe shall taunt and assail us. Lord, have mercy!

4. Du höchster Tröster in aller Not,  
hilf, daß wir nicht fürchten Schand noch Tod,  
daß in uns die Sinne nicht verzagen,  
wenn der Feind wird das Leben verklagen. Kyrieleis.

4. Shine in our hearts, O Spirit, precious light,  
that we Jesus Christ may know aright,  
clinging to our Savior, whose blood has bought us,  
who to our true homeland has brought us. Lord, have mercy!

English st 1, 4 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress st. 2-3 © 1969 Concordia Publishing House 'Printed under One License Lutheran World Federation Assembly', E-803640 for May 10, 2017 - May 17, 2017

## Sending

Go in peace to freely share this gift with all creation!

**Thanks be to God!**

# Morning Prayer and Bible Study, Friday, 29 June

Liturgist: Bishop Dr Jensen Seyenkulo, Lutheran Church in Liberia

*We open with the sound of a gong or singing bowl*

## Psalm 18:

God my friend,  
You give me strength.

God, my shield, my help,  
You watch over me.

You bring me out into a broad place  
Because you delight in me.

It is you who light my lamp.  
You light up my darkness.

By you, God, I can leap over a wall.  
For this I will extol you in the morning and in the evening, now and always. Amen.

*We sing (in German)*

Joachim Neander 1680, Germany

1. Lo - be den Her - ren den mäch - ti - gen Kö - nig der Eh - ren; lob ihn, o  
1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion! O my soul,

See - le ver - eint mit den himm - li - schen Chö - ren. Kom - met zu -  
praise - him for - eint he mit is your health and - sal - va - tion! Let - all who -

hauf; Psal - ter und Har - fe, wacht auf. Las - set den Lob - ge - sang hö - ren.  
hear, now to his tem - ple draw near; join - ing in glad ad - o - a - tion!

2. Lobe den Herren, der alles so herrlich regieret,  
der dich auf Adellers Fittichen sicher geführet,  
der dich erhält, wie es dir selber gefällt.  
Hast du nicht dieses verspüret?

2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen all that is needful has been  
sent by his gracious ordaining?

3. Lobe den Herren, der künstlich und fein dich bereitet,  
der dir Gesundheit verliehen, dich freundlich geleitet.  
In wieviel Not hat nicht der gnädige Gott  
über dir Flügel gebreitet!

3. Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do  
if with his love he befriend you.

4. Lobe den Herren, was in mir ist, lobe den Namen.  
Lob ihn mit allen, die seine Verheißung bekamen.  
Er ist dein Licht; Seele, vergiß es ja nicht.  
Lob ihn in Ewigkeit. Amen.

4. Praise to the Lord! Oh let all that is in me adore him.  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.  
Let the Amen sound from his people again.  
Gladly forever adore him.  
Catherine Winkworth adp. Hedwig T. Durnbaugh

Let us pray,

We are grateful for the gift of each body gathered here this morning. We give you thanks for the gifts that you give, and the many ways in which we receive them. Today we thank you for sight. By the light of a star you revealed your presence to those who watched and wondered. By the image of suffering on the cross, you revealed your will for life. By the diversity of the land and seas and the life that moves upon it, you reveal the truth in beauty. We lament the forces that seek uniformity, that stifle creativity, and reject what is different. In our communion, help us to use the gifts of our art, cultures, music and lifestyles to show the world the hope and life giving beauty of reconciled diversity.

God, you fill your earth with beauty;  
There is so much we can see —  
Banners, art, and stained glass windows,  
Sculpture, quilt, and tapestry.  
You give art to lift our spirits;  
You help artists do their best.  
In their work, we see your goodness.  
Through their art, our lives are blest.

## **Bible reading and study**

Archbishop Dr Antje Jackelén, Church of Sweden

### **Genesis 33: 1-11**

Now Jacob looked up and saw Esau coming, and four hundred men with him. So he divided the children among Leah and Rachel and the two maids. He put the maids with their children in front, then Leah with her children, and Rachel and Joseph last of all. He himself went on ahead of them, bowing himself to the ground seven times, until he came near his brother. But Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept. When Esau looked up and saw the women and children, he said, "Who are these with you?" Jacob said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant." Then the maids drew near, they and their children, and bowed down; Leah likewise and her children drew near and bowed down; and finally Joseph and Rachel drew near, and they bowed down. Esau said, "What do you mean by all this company that I met?" Jacob answered, "To find favor with my lord." But Esau said, "I have enough, my brother; keep what you have for yourself." Jacob said, "No, please; if I find favor with you, then accept my present from my hand; for truly to see your face is like seeing the face of God—since you have received me with such favor. Please accept my gift that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have everything I want." So he urged him, and he took it.

## Group Discussions

### Prayers

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

We thank you, God, for the night's rest, for the hours of sleep and dream.  
Open our minds and hearts to all we meet today.

We are one with each other.

Show us the people to serve and the work we are to do.

We cannot live by ourselves.

God, be near us and lift us up.

Walk with us,

Step by step, hour by hour.

We pray to God, our light and salvation, in the words Jesus taught us, each in our own language.

Our Father in heaven...

*We sing (in any language)*

Jacques Berthier: France

El Se - nyor és la me - va for - ça, el Se - nyor el meu cant. Ell m'ha es - tat la sal - va - ci -  
In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re - jice! Look to God, do not be a -  
O ma joie et mon es - pé - ran - ce le Sei - gneur est mon chant. C'est de lui que vient le par -

ó. En ell con - fi - o i no tinc por, en ell con - fi - o i no tinc por.  
fraid, lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near.  
don. En lui j'es - pé - re, je ne crains rien. En lui j'es - pé - re, je ne crains rien.

Music J. Berthier © Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, 71250 Taizé-Communauté, France

Gracious God, we thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You kept us safe from all evil and danger last night. Save us, we pray, today as well, from every evil and sin, so that all we do and the way that we live will please you. We put ourselves in your care, body and soul and all that we have. Let Your holy Angels be with us, so that the evil one will not gain power over us. Amen.

### Benediction and sending

May the God of creation, incarnation and redemption,  
sharpen our senses

so that we may continue to discern God's loving presence,  
**freely receive**

the blessings of life,  
**and freely share**

the joy of God's reconciling love.

**Thanks be to God!**

# Morning Prayer and Bible Study, Saturday, 30 June

*Liturgist: Archbishop Urmas Vilma, Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church*

*We open with the sound of a gong or singing bowl*

## **Psalm 18:**

God my friend,  
**You give me strength.**

God, my shield, my help,  
**You watch over me.**

You bring me out into a broad place  
**Because you delight in me.**

It is you who light my lamp.  
**You light up my darkness.**

By you, God, I can leap over a wall.  
**For this I will extol you in the morning and in the evening, now and always. Amen.**

*We sing (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> verses in German)*

1. Schmü - cke dich, o lie - be See - le, laß die dü - kle Sün - den - höh - le, komm ans hel - le Licht ge -  
 1. Deck, thy - self, my soul, with glad - ness, leave the gloom - y haunts of sad - ness. Come in - to the day - light's

gan - gen, fan - ge herr - lich an zu pran - gen! Denn der Herr voll Heil und Gna - den will dich jetzt zu  
 splen - dor; there with joy thy prais - es ren - der un - to Christ, whose grace un - bound - ed hath this won - drous

Gas - te la - den; der den Him - mel kann ver - wal - ten, will jetzt Her - berg in dir hal - ten.  
 ban - quet found - ed. High o'er all the heavens he reign - eth, yet to dwell with thee he deign - eth.

2. Nein, Vernunft, die muß hier weichen,  
 kann dies Wunder nicht erreichen,  
 daß dies Brot nie wird verzehret,  
 ob es gleich viel Tausend nähret,  
 und daß mit dem Saft der Reben  
 uns wird Christi Blut gegeben.  
 Gottes Geist nur kann uns leiten,  
 dies Geheimnis recht zu deuten!

3. Jesu, meine Lebenssonne,  
 Jesu, meine Freud und Wonne,  
 Jesu, du mein ganz Beginnen,  
 Lebensquell und Licht der Sinnen:  
 hier fall ich zu deinen Füßen;  
 laß mich würdiglich genießen  
 diese deine Himmels Speise  
 mir zum Heil und dir zum Preise.

4. Jesu, wahres Brot des Lebens,  
 hilf, daß ich doch nicht vergebens  
 oder mir vielleicht zum Schaden  
 sei zu deinem Tisch geladen.  
 Laß mich durch dies heilige Essen  
 deine Liebe recht ermessen,  
 daß ich auch, wie jetzt auf Erden,  
 mög dein Gast im Himmel werden.

2. Those who crave a precious treasure  
 neither cost nor pain will measure;  
 but the priceless gifts of heaven  
 God to us hath freely given.  
 Though the wealth of earth were offered,  
 naught would buy the gifts here offered:  
 Christ's true body for thee riven,  
 and his blood, for thee once given.

3. Sun, who all my life dost brighten;  
 light, who dost my soul enlighten;  
 joy, the best that any knoweth;  
 fount, whence all my being floweth;  
 at thy feet I cry, my Maker,  
 let me be a fit partaker  
 of this blessed food from heaven,  
 for our good, thy glory, given.

4. Jesus, bread of life, I pray thee,  
 let me gladly here obey thee;  
 never to my hurt invited,  
 be thy love with love required.  
 From this banquet let me measure,  
 Lord, how vast and deep its treasure;  
 through the gifts thou here dost give me,  
 as thy guest in heav'n receive me.

Let us pray,

We are grateful for the gift of each body gathered here this morning. We give you thanks for the gifts that you give, and the many ways in which we receive them. Today we thank you for our sense of smell. By the gift of frankincense the magi honoured your presence among us, and the woman paid homage to your loving sacrifice with an essential, fragrant oil. By the scent of flowers, bees and butterflies are moved to share life that produces good fruit. We lament the fumes, the pollution, and decay that diffuses from our over mining, consumption and production of toxic goods. Help our living be infused with the aroma of your goodness, so that our lives may be a fragrant offering, pleasing to you, and attractive to those we meet.

God, your world is filled with fragrance;  
 Smells surround the things we do.  
 Sweat from work and smoke in cooking  
 Both are offerings to you.  
 Oils of healing, scented flowers  
 Carry with them love and care.

All the smells of potluck suppers  
Bring the joy of life we share.

## Bible reading and study

Ms Olga Navratilova, Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren

### 2 Corinthians 5: 14-21

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

## Group Discussions

### Prayers

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

We thank you, God, for the night's rest, for the hours of sleep and dream.

**Open our minds and hearts to all we meet today.**

We are one with each other.

**Show us the people to serve and the work we are to do.**

We cannot live by ourselves.

**God, be near us and lift us up.**

Walk with us,

**Step by step, hour by hour.**

We pray to God, our light and salvation, in the words Jesus taught us, each in our own language.

Our Father in heaven...

*We sing*



I am the vine and you are the branch - es. Those who a - bide in me will bear much fruit.

Copyright © Tom Witt

Gracious God, we thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You kept us safe from all evil and danger last night. Save us, we pray, today as well, from every evil and sin, so that all we do and the way that we live will please you. We put ourselves in your care, body and soul and all that we have. Let Your holy Angels be with us, so that the evil one will not gain power over us. Amen.

## Benediction

### Sending

May the God of creation, incarnation and redemption,  
**sharpen our senses**

so that we may continue to discern God's loving presence,  
**freely receive**

the blessings of life,  
**and freely share**

the joy of God's reconciling love.

**Thanks be to God!**

# Morning Prayer and Bible Study, Monday, 2 July

Liturgist: Ms Sally Azar, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land

*We open with the sound of a gong or singing bowl*

## Psalm 18:

God my friend,  
You give me strength.

God, my shield, my help,  
You watch over me.

You bring me out into a broad place  
Because you delight in me.

It is you who light my lamp.  
You light up my darkness.

By you, God, I can leap over a wall.  
For this I will extol you in the morning and in the evening, now and always. Amen.

*We sing (1<sup>st</sup> verse in Swahili)*

Wilson Niwagila: Tanzania

Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho Mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji - wa - tu. Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi-  
Come a - mong us, lov - ing Spir - it, touch us and make us whole. Show us glimps - ses of the

**Refrain**

ngu - ni. Tu - we wa - tu wa - pya. Njo - o, njo - o, njoo, Ro - ho Mwe - ma.  
King - dom, use us to spread its rule. Lov - ing Spir - it, fill us with your life.

© 1989 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, ELCT., P.O. Box 55, Usa River, Tanzania. English Fred Kaan © 1990 Stainer & Bell, England.

2. Utufanye waamini Wa Yesu Mwokozi.  
Tukaishi kikundini, Kanisani mwako.

3. Roho Mwema, Mfariji, Utupe hekima;  
Tukiwaza na kutenda, Yote yawe yako.

4. Tudumisha, tuwe hai Na ukweli wako.  
Tusivutwe na dunia, Tushu'die neema.

2. Loving Spirit, come and kindle faith in our Lord, God's Son.  
Make your people in their worship and in their action one.

3. Loving Spirit, let your wisdom guide what we think and do.  
Make us willing and responsive as you make all things new.

4. From the grip of fear and conflict, Spirit, your world release.  
Help your people to discover things that will make for peace.

Let us pray,

We are grateful for the gift of each body gathered here this morning. We give you thanks for the gifts that you give, and the many ways in which we receive them. Today we thank you for our sense of touch. You placed your hands on the infirm and reached out to the marginalized. You restored the untouchable with a gracious touch. We sense your incarnate presence when we extend the hand of peace, or share a comforting embrace. We reject violence in all forms: Gender Based Violence, sexual abuse, trafficking, marginalization or the exploitation that abuse the precious

bodies that you have made. We pray that your Spirit would restore right relationships, transforming them to embody healthy sexuality, respectful, loving touch that honours the dignity of each body regardless of ability, color, or shape.

God, your gift of touch can heal us  
Through a hug or kind embrace.  
When we share the peace you give us,  
It can change us, by your grace.  
When we offer prayers for healing,  
Laying hands on those in need,  
By your loving, gentle caring,  
Those who hurt are blessed and freed.

## **Bible reading and study**

Bishop Jack Urame, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea

### **Gal 5:13-18, 22-26**

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law...By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

## **Group Discussions**

### **Prayers**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

We thank you, God, for the night's rest, for the hours of sleep and dream.

**Open our minds and hearts to all we meet today.**

We are one with each other.

**Show us the people to serve and the work we are to do.**

We cannot live by ourselves.

**God, be near us and lift us up.**

Walk with us,

Step by step, hour by hour.

We pray to God, our light and salvation, in the words Jesus taught us, each in our own language.

Our Father in heaven...

*We sing*

Galatians 5:1 Luis Olivieri: Puerto Rico

For free - dom Christ has set us free. For free - dom Christ has set us free. Stand firm there-  
fore, and nev - er a - gain put on, and nev - er a - gain put on the yoke of sla - ve - ry.

'Printed under One License Lutheran World Federation Assembly', E-803640 for May 10, 2017 - May 17, 2017

Gracious God, we thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You kept us safe from all evil and danger last night. Save us, we pray, today as well, from every evil and sin, so that all we do and the way that we live will please you. We put ourselves in your care, body and soul and all that we have. Let Your holy Angels be with us, so that the evil one will not gain power over us. Amen.

## Benediction

### Sending

May the God of creation, incarnation and redemption,  
**sharpen our senses**

so that we may continue to discern God's loving presence,  
**freely receive**

the blessings of life,  
**and freely share**

the joy of God's reconciling love.  
**Thanks be to God!**

## An Order for Evening Prayer

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,  
The light no darkness can overcome.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,  
And the day is almost over.

Let your light scatter the darkness,  
And illumine your church.

*We sing (in French)*

Communauté de Grandchamp: Switzerland

Lu - miè - re de Dieu, in - on - de la ter - re, vi - si - te nos cœurs et de - meure a - vec nous.  
Come light, light of God, give light to cre - a - tion, en - light - en our hearts and re - main with your world.

© Communauté de Grandchamp.

## Psalm 141

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;  
Hear my voice when I cry to you.

Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,  
And guard the door of my lips.

Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;  
Let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.

But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God,  
In you I take refuge; do not strip me of my life.

Glory to the Holy Trinity,  
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Let us pray to “I will be who I will be,” liberty’s source and freedom’s force.

O God, awaken our eyes and ears so we turn aside from our daily tasks and fears, to  
know your grace as near as a name, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

## A reading, adapted from Matthew 10:2-8

These are the names of the apostles:

**We name those who are called and sent**

first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew;  
**Our siblings**

James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;

**Our daughters and our sons**

Philip and Bartholomew;

**Our friends**

Thomas and Matthew the tax collector;

**Our neighbours from all vocations of life**

James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus

**All women and all men**

Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

**Those who are strong, and those who will fail are all called and sent**

These twelve Jesus sent out

**Jesus sends us out**

As you go, proclaim the good news,

**To proclaim this gospel**

"The kingdom of heaven has come near."

**Solidarity, God with us**

Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons.

**Healing, justice, peace, reconciliation for all creation**

You received without payment;

**Freely we receive**

give without payment.

**Freely we give**

*A time of quiet reflection on the text, followed by the singing bowl*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord,

**Lord have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the welfare of church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this city of Geneva in which we gather from across our communion, for the cities and countries from which we come and for the wellbeing of all creatures, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Remembering all who have gone before us in the faith, and the path we are called to walk together as a communion, we commit ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our God.

**To you, O Lord.**

*We sing (in Spanish)*

Jacques Berthier: France

$\text{♩} = 72$

Na - da te tur - be, na - da te es - pan - te, quien a Dios tie - ne na - da le fal - ta.  
 Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en, those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing.

Na - da te tur - be, na - da te es - pan - te, so - lo Dios bas - ta.  
 Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en, God a - lone fills us.

Music J. Berthier © Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, 71250 Taizé-Communauté, France

Gracious God, we thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You have graciously kept us this day. And we pray that You would forgive us all our sins where we have done wrong, and graciously keep us this night. For into Your hands, we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things. Let Your holy angel be with us, that the evil one may have no power over us. Amen.

Our Father in heaven...

## Benediction

May the almighty and merciful God, Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier, bless and preserve us.

Amen.

## Council Closing Prayer

*Liturgist: Rev. Dr Nestor Friedrich, President, Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil*

### Psalm 103

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits**

who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

**who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.**

You made known your ways to Moses, your acts to the people of Israel.

**The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

You will not always accuse, nor will you keep your anger forever.

**You do not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love toward those who fear God;

**as far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our transgressions from us.**

As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O Lord.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul.**

*We sing*





## **Scripture reading: Mark 4:30-33**

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it.

## **Response to the Word**

*Invitation to reflect: Where during the last days did you see, feel, hear God's promise?*

*Invitation to share: Tell about a moment of joy and encouragement that you experienced during this meeting to a person next to you.*

## **Intercessions**

Archbishop Musa Panti Filibus, LWF President

## **Lord's Prayer (in our many languages)**

### **Sign of peace freely given**

Now we will share a sign of God's peace which has been freely given. We will exchange our Lund crosses with those around us, giving that which was given to us, with Christ's words, "*Peace I give to you*" in your own language.

*We sing*

## Chon Rizad (1<sup>st</sup> time in Farsi)

Roobeh Najarnejad: Farsi

Chon ri - zad ba - ra - né roo - hé to out bar ka - vi - ré 'al - bam bi - ya - ba -  
 As the rain of your Spir - it pours out ov - er my de - sert heart, gar - dens spring

nha boo - stan mi - gar - dan ba lam - sé roo - hat Chon ri - zad ba - ra -  
 from the wil - der - ness and flowers bloom with your touch. As the rain of your

né roo - hé to out bar ka - vi - ré 'al - bam heart, bi - ya - ba - nha boo -  
 Spir - it pours out ov - er my de - sert heart, gar - dens spring from the

stan mi - gar - dan ba lam - sé roo - hat sha - fa - hi ta - zeh bak - shad  
 wil - der - ness and flowers bloom with your touch. A sur - prise, heal - ing comes near.

jo - nam ra sier gar - da - nad. so - roo - di ta - zeh na - had bar lab - hoy -  
 I'm re - newed, ful - ly a - live. A new song flows from my lips, and its sound

yé tar - sa - nam fear. a - za - dim ba lam - sé ou pi - roo - zim dar na - mé ou  
 count - ers my With his touch, I be - come free. My suc - cess found in his name,

bi - ya - banan boo - stan sha - vad boo - stan - ha jan - gle sha - vad  
 all the dry plac - es made green, and the green burst - ing with flowers.

Permission sought. English paraphrase by Terry MacArthur based on a translation by Neda Gehl.

## Affirmation

The love of God in Christ Jesus, the anchor which holds firm,  
**grace,**

A vision expanded beyond the possibilities offered by our times,  
**grace,**

The encouragement of the Scriptures, the ministry of consolation,  
**grace,**

The gift of community, accountable to God and to one another,  
**grace,**

The gospel at the core of our life together,  
**grace,**

The message of the cross healing our brokenness,  
**grace,**

The celebration of our unity in Christ with all the diversity in which Christ is embodied in  
 us,

**grace,**

The freedom that grows from love, respecting each other, bearing with each other,

**grace,**

The endowment of word and sacrament,

**grace.**

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.**

## **Sending**

May the God of creation, incarnation and redemption,  
**sharpen our senses**

so that we may continue to discern God's loving presence,  
**freely receive**

the blessings of life,  
**and freely share**

the joy of God's reconciling love.  
**Thanks be to God!**