

COMMENCEMENT SERVICE CALL SERVICE





MISSION OF MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

The mission of Martin Luther College is to train men and women to meet the public ministry needs of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) and to proclaim the Word of God faithfully and in accord with the Lutheran Confessions in the Book of Concord. To fulfill this mission, Martin Luther College carries out all instruction and programs of student life according to the gospel as revealed in the inspired and inerrant Word of God.

With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the college desires

- To deepen in the student saving faith in the forgiving grace of Jesus Christ;
- To strengthen the student in a consecrated spirit of love for God and his Word;
- To foster in the student a servant's heart for Christ-like service in the church, community, and world;
- To educate the student for faithful, capable, and intelligent citizenship in today's world;
- To assist the student in acquiring the knowledge, attitudes, and skills needed for service in the church and for lifelong learning;
- To help the student to develop the spiritual, emotional, and physical resiliency that will assist them to persevere in service under the cross; and
- To provide for the student an affordable college experience on a beautiful and attractive campus.

To meet the current ministry needs of the WELS, Martin Luther College

- Prepares men for pastoral training at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary;
- Prepares men and women for service as teachers and staff ministers in the synod's churches, schools, and other institutions;
- Prepares men and women for other public ministry in the church, both full- and part-time, responding to the needs of the WELS;
- Prepares international students for ministry in partnership with WELS mission fields; and
- Provides programs of professional and continuing education that meet the ministerial needs of the WELS.

AS YOU SENT ME INTO THE WORLD, I HAVE SENT THEM INTO THE WORLD. JOHN 17:18

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In last Sunday's gospel, we heard Jesus pray to his Father the words printed above.

In that prayer, spoken in the upper room the night he was betrayed, Jesus joyously (!) anticipates what would be accomplished on the cross the next day. The "joy set before him" (Heb 12:2) was to bring his Father glory by winning eternal life for all who would believe in him.

And then Jesus turns his prayer's attention to those gathered around him in that room. He admits what a dangerous place this world is for those who, through faith, no longer truly belong to this world. But this dangerous reality does *not* lead him to ask his Father to take them out of this world. Instead, he asks his Father to protect them by the power of his name, since Jesus would use them to carry his victory to that world. AS YOU SENT ME INTO THE WORLD, I HAVE SENT THEM INTO THE WORLD.

As Jesus notes just a few verses later, his prayer was not for those first disciples alone, but "for those who will believe in me through their message" (Jn 17:20). On that night he was betrayed, he prayed for each one of us who, down through the centuries, would believe in him. He doesn't pray that we be instantly ripped out of this world. Instead, he sends us out into that world, protected by his name, to be his messengers. AS YOU SENT ME INTO THE WORLD, I HAVE SENT THEM INTO THE WORLD.

So Jesus prays for every believer here. Yet his prayer has a special application for those who graduate today and hear their names connected to a place of ministry, and for those who move on to the seminary with another call day approaching faster than they can imagine.

These graduates are an answer to his prayer in two special ways, As they serve God in public ministry, they are protected by his gracious and powerful name, and they are his representatives, his messengers of the gospel. What a privilege!

Watch and listen in humble awe today. Before your eyes and in your ears, the Father is continuing to answer his Son's prayer! AS YOU SENT ME INTO THE WORLD, I HAVE SENT THEM INTO THE WORLD.

Rich Gurgel

President, Martin Luther College

1 - Mars

THE REGALIA

The academic apparel worn by faculty and graduates has its origins in the monastic tradition of the Middle Ages. In Christian freedom we can choose to follow such academic traditions or not. In this graduation service, our undergraduate faculty has chosen to wear normal attire to emphasize that we train students not just for academic achievement, but for ministry. Our graduate faculty has chosen to wear formal regalia to emphasize lifelong learning pursued in service to God and for the glory of God.

The various colors of apparel (baccalaureate tassels and master's hoods) indicate the degree-granting institution and the particular areas of study.

• Martin Luther College: red and black

• Education: light blue

• Theology: red

Finally, a small percentage of our students are from foreign countries. They wear stoles with the colors and insignia of their homelands.

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As the procession begins, stand and face the cross at the back of the gymnasium. Follow its path to the chancel, where it serves as the center and focus of Christian worship.

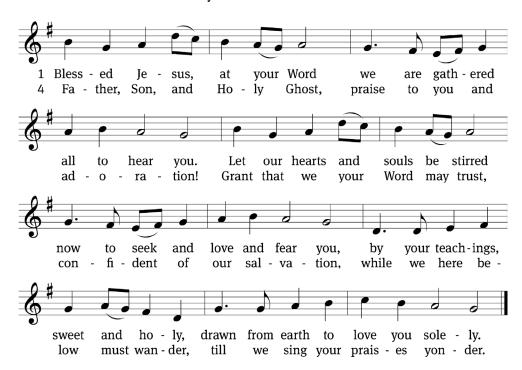
PROCESSIONAL

INVOCATION

- M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

DIALOGUE

- M: How lovely is your dwelling place, LORD Almighty.
- C: My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD.
- M: Blessed are those who dwell in your house.
- C: They are ever praising you.
- M: Better is one day in your courts
- C: Than a thousand elsewhere.
- M: For the LORD God is a sun and shield.
- C: The LORD bestows favor and honor.
- M: LORD Almighty,
- C: Blessed is the one who trusts in you.



Text (st. 1): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 1): Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684; (st. 4): tr. unknown, alt.; (st. 4): Geistreiches Gesang-Büchlein, Berlin, 1707
Tune: Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673, alt.

M: Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, pour out your Holy Spirit on our graduates. As they depart from this place, cause them to continue to grow in faith, love, and joy. In all their vocations in life, instill in them a lifelong desire to hear and tell the message of your grace in Christ. Keep them ever faithful to you so that, through their witness, many more may sing your praises in eternity, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Be seated

READING

2 TIMOTHY 3:10-17

You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is Godbreathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

O WORD OF GOD

Arranged by Craig Courtney

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high, O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky, we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page, a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The Church from you, dear Master, received the gift divine, and still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine.

It is the sacred vessel where gems of truth are stored; it is the heaven-drawn picture of Christ, the living Word.

Piano: Hope Sulzle | Trumpet: Josiah Smith

The Scripture is a banner, before God's host unfurled; it is a shining beacon above the darkening world. It is the chart and compass that o'er life's surging tide, mid mists and rocks and quicksands to you, O Christ, will guide.

O make your Church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold to bear before the nations your true light, as of old.
O teach your wand'ring pilgrims by this their path to trace till, clouds and darkness ended, they see you face to face. Amen.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:7-12

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may also be revealed in our mortal body. So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.

YOU ARE ... CLAY JARS ... TREASURE-FILLED ... INDESTRUCTIBLE

HYMN

CATCH THE VISION! SHARE THE GLORY!

Jaroslav J. Vajda Setting by Carl Schalk



PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

Out of respect for each graduate, please reserve applause for the Presentation of the Class of 2024, which occurs after the blessing and announcements.

Stand

PRAYER

- M: Heavenly Father, we thank you for all the good and perfect gifts that you give us. We remember especially today the gift of this school of ministry, the blessings of the past school year, parents and all others who support the training of future ministers of your Word with prayers and gifts, faithful students who apply themselves to their tasks with diligence, dedicated faculty and staff who follow your ways, and our church body that comes together to proclaim the good news to all people.
- C: Above all, we thank you for our Savior Jesus and the forgiveness he has won for us.
- M: O Lord, bless our graduates. Bless those who will begin public ministry as teachers and staff ministers. Give them strength and joy in their work of sharing the gospel.
- C: Lord, hear our prayer.
- M: Bless those who will continue their preparation for pastoral ministry at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary with patience and resolve.
- C: Lord, hear our prayer.
- M: Bless those who will serve you as lay members in their congregations or in international fields of service.
- C: Lord, hear our prayer.
- M: In all we do, give us the strength of faith to do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, as we give thanks to you. Hear us as we ask these things in his name and pray as he has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

- M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
 - The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 - The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.
- C: Amen.

Be seated

O CHURCH, ARISE

CW 870:1,4



Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974
Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974
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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RECOGNITION OF THOSE **CONCLUDING SERVICE**

Lawrence Czer (called home to heaven) Alyssa Heckendorf (accepting a call) Brian Hennig (accepted a call) Grace Hennig (retiring June 2024) Robert Klindworth (retiring June 2024)

Erin Laabs (spouse accepted a position) Jonathan Laabs (peaceful release) Mya Peshon (peaceful release) Lori Unke (retiring June 2024)

SERVING AT WORSHIP

Presiding Minister Rev. Dr. Tim Grundmeier | MLC Faculty Secretary

Preacher Rev. Dr. Rich Gurgel | MLC President

Assisting with Distribution of Diplomas Dr. Jeff Wiechman | MLC Vice President for Academic Affairs

Organist Dr. Jon Roux | MLC Education Division Prof. Adrian Smith | MLC Music Division Graduation Choir Wind Symphony Dr. Miles Wurster | MLC Music Division Graduation Marshal Michelle Gartner | MLC Event Coordinator

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OTHER DEGREES:

BS Education Martin Luther College 2016



Donovan J. Waege Weyauwega WI Technology Director Emphasis

CURRENT SERVICE:

St. Peter Lutheran School Weyauwega WI

OTHER DEGREES:

BS Education Martin Luther College 2021

MASTER OF SCIENCE

SPECIAL EDUCATION



Kortney M. Behnke Fond du Lac WI Special Education

CURRENT SERVICE:

Winnebago Lutheran Academy Fond du Lac WI

OTHER DEGREES:

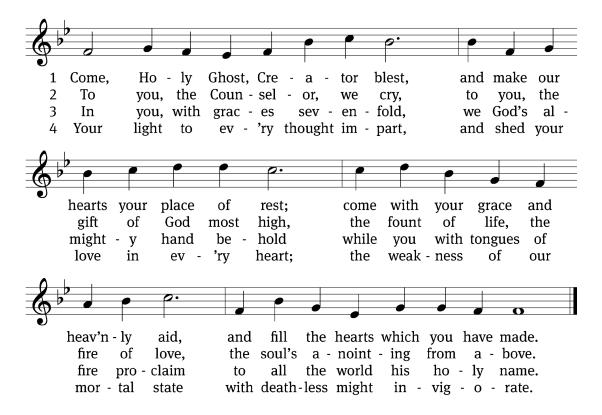
BS Education Martin Luther College 2022



OPENING HYMN

COME, HOLY GHOST, CREATOR BLEST

CW 586



- Drive far away our wily foe, and your abiding peace bestow; with you as our protecting guide, no evil can with us abide.
- Teach us to know the Father, Son, and you, from both, as Three in One that we your name may ever bless and in our lives the truth confess.

Stand

7 Praise we the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit, with them One, and may the Son on us bestow the gifts that from the Spirit flow!

- M: O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,
- C: Have mercy on us.
- M: O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
- C: Have mercy on us.
- M: O God the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide,
- C: Have mercy on us.
- M: Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three persons in one God,
- C: Have mercy on us.
- M: Govern and direct your holy Church, fill it with love and truth, and grant it that unity which is according to your will.
- C: Hear us, good Lord.
- M: Enlighten all ministers of the gospel with true knowledge and understanding of your Word, that by their teaching and living they may declare it clearly and show its truth.
- C: Hear us, good Lord.
- M: Encourage and prosper your servants who spread the gospel in all the world, and send out laborers into the harvest.
- C: Hear us, good Lord.
- M: Bless and keep your people, good Lord.
- C: God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

Be seated

READING

EPHESIANS 4:1-13

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people."

(What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

- M: The Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

CHRIST CALLS US FORTH

Words and Music by K. Lee Scott



Organ: Benjamin Foster | Trumpet: Jason Horn, Josiah Smith Trombone: Grace Seim, Bethany Valleau | Timpani: Robert Reinke

SERMON ZECHARIAH 10

CHOIR

LORD GOD, YOU HAVE CALLED YOUR SERVANTS

Text: Closing Prayer from the Vespers Service Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978 Music: J. Aaron McDermid

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending; by paths as yet untrod, through perils unknown.

Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

READING OF ASSIGNMENTS

OPTING FOR INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

We praise God also for the following graduates who have elected international service in various parts of the world:

EDUCATION

Rebekah Cole – Dominican Republic

Zachary Cole – Dominican Republic

Lydia Krenke – Dominican Republic

Abby Micheel – Japan (Friends Network)

HYMN

SEND, O LORD, YOUR HOLY SPIRIT

CW 898



Text: tr. Frederick W. Herzberger, 1859–1930, alt.; Lieder-Perlen, St. Louis, 1905 Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

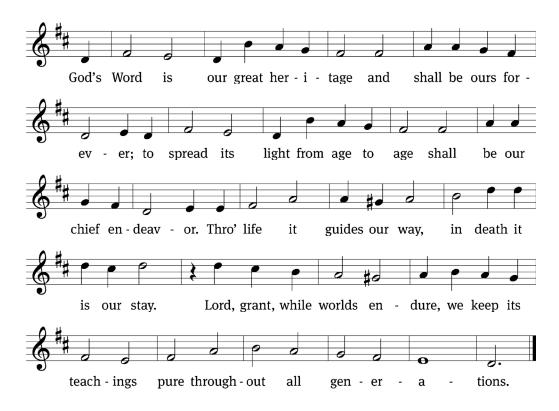
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

GOD'S WORD IS OUR GREAT HERITAGE

CW 640



Text: tr. Ole G. Belsheim, alt.; Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872 Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924 Text and tune: Public domain

Be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVING AT WORSHIP

Presiding Minister Rev. Dr. Rich Gurgel | MLC President

Preacher Rev. Jeff Schone | MLC Vice President for Student Life

Reading of Assignments Rev. Mark Schroeder | WELS President
Organist Rev. Jacob Behnken | MLC Dean of Chapel
College Choir Prof. Adrian Smith | MLC Music Division

Acknowledgments

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SCHOLARSHIPS

We praise God for the individuals, families, churches, and organizations that have established named scholarships to assist MLC students.

Kenneth & Mary Abraham Scholarship Martin Albrecht Music Scholarship

Albrechts of Eschenau Memorial Fund

Katherine (Ewald) Alderman Memorial Scholarship

All Children Can Learn Scholarship

Auxiliary Scholarship

Barnabas Fund

Gerhard Bauer Scholarship

Isaac J. Baumann Memorial Scholarship

George & Mildred Benedict Endowment

Beyer Memorial Scholarship

Hugo & Janet Bilitz Scholarship

Bingenheimer Music Scholarship

Birkholz & Gray Family Scholarship

Elfred Bloedel Memorial Organ Scholarship

Boehling Scholarship

Boschee Memorial Scholarship

Dr. Roy & Ruth Breiling Endowed Organ Scholarship

Clifford R. Brooks Family Scholarship

Edwin & Malinda Buss Memorial Fund

By Grace Scholarship

Carow MLC Preseminary Scholarship

Christus Lux Scholarship

Larry Czer English Scholarship

Dakota-Montana District Scholarship

Earl & Eileen Defferding Scholarship

DMLHS Class of 1956 Scholarship

DMLHS Class of 1959 Scholarship

Dusseau Family Urban Teaching & Leadership Scholarship

Melvin & Ina Mae Dux Scholarship

Emanuel-New London 125th Anniversary Fund

Engel Scholarship

R. & F. Ewings Memorial Scholarship

Conrad Frey Scholarship

Gaertner/Harting Scholarship

Silas Lawrence Gerling Scholarship

Grefe Family Scholarship

Ivan & Jeanette Gruetzmacher Scholarship

Jim & Sarah (Zell) Guenther Scholarship

Walter & Darleen Gutknecht Endowment

Paul & Suzanne Gydesen Scholarship

Judy Hamby Scholarship

Heckmann Scholarship

Pastor William K. Hein Chaplaincy Endowment

Holzhueter Family Scholarship

Chris Horn Scholarship

Houska Larsen Endowment

James K. Huhn Memorial Science Scholarship

Walter O. & Frieda Johnson Scholarship

Junso Organ Scholarship

Kastens Staff Ministry Scholarship

E. C. Kiessling Scholarship

Klockziem Scholarship

Koinonia Fund Scholarship

Bob & Helen Krueger Scholarship

Don & Verona Krueger Scholarship

Zachary Krzmarzick Music Scholarship

Herman & Antonia Lehmann Prize

Rev. Philip L. H. & Elenore F. A. Lehmann Scholarship

Dr. Ruth Preston Lehmann Scholarship

Winfred P. Lehmann Language Scholarship

Lemke Scholarship

LET & MAT Scholarship

Ronald & Anna Lind Scholarship

Luehrs Scholarship

Glenn & Rebecca Lussky Scholarship

MLC Alumni Association Endowment

Melacha Scholarship

Alan & Muriel Meyer Endowment

Micheel Scholarship

Jack N. Minch Endowed & Annual Scholarships

Minnesota District Scholarship

Zachary Moyle Scholarship

Northwestern College Alumni Society Presidents Grants

- Pres. John A. Braun Grant for English
- Pres. John A. Braun Grant for Leadership
- Pres. August F. Ernst Grant for Confessional Languages: German
- Pres. August F. Ernst Grant for Confessional Languages: Latin
- Pres. August F. Ernst Grant for Confessional Languages:
- German & Latin
 Pres. E.E. Kowalke Grant for Biblical Languages: Hebrew
- Pres. E.E. Kowalke Grant for Biblical Languages: Greek
- Pres. Adam Martin Grant for Living Languages
- Pres. Carleton Toppe Grant for GPA and Religion
- Pres. Carleton Toppe Grant for Worship and Music
- Pres. Robert J. Voss Grant for Student Government
- Pres. Robert J. Voss Grant for Student Life

Ruth Odegard Endowment

Ted Olsen Early Childhood Scholarship

Dr. John Henry Ott Award for Research Writing

Edward & Rhoda Otterstatter Scholarship

OWLS Scholarship

Bill & Jerry Patterson Scholarship Warren H. & Adeline G. Phelps Scholarship LeDell & Fern Plath Leadership Scholarship Pastor Joel W. & Margaret A. Prange Organ Endowment Theodore Precht Scholarship Jeff & Yvonne Quint Endowed & Annual Scholarships Virgil & Esther Raasch Scholarship Earl & Elnor Reichel Memorial Scholarship Edison Sabin Memorial Scholarship St. Paul-Seaforth Scholarship Robert A. Schaefer Scholarship Ellen Schmeling Early Childhood Education Scholarship Fred & Bertha Schroeder Scholarship Professor Francis Schubkegel Music Scholarship Professor Joyce Schubkegel Music Scholarship Schweppe Scholarship Betty Schweppe-Gerlach Scholarship Servant's Heart Ministerial Scholarship Service to God and Country Scholarship Serving Christ Scholarship Pastor Richard Siegler Scholarship

Sievert Scholarship Roger A. Sievert (RAS) Scholarship Mrs. Amy Marlene Smith Music Scholarship Barbara Strackbein Memorial Scholarship Strong and Courageous Scholarship Manfred E. & Olga A. Tiedemann Scholarship Timothy Endowment Marjorie Toepel Scholarship Jim Unke Memorial Scholarship Voecks Scholarship Warner Scholarship Howard L. Wessel Memorial Scholarship Rev. Victor Weyland Legacy Scholarship Harry & Rola Wiedmann Scholarship Wintrone Scholarship Verna Witt Scholarship Allen & JoAnn Wittchow Scholarship Prof. Meilahn P. Zahn Memorial Scholarship for the Advancement of Lutheran Worship in Christian Education Ryan Zweifel Scholarship

Almighty God, who by your Son, Jesus Christ, commanded your church to go into all the world to preach the gospel to all creation: grant an eagerness to remain faithful to and with your Word to all whom you this day—or in the days ahead—call into full-time service to your flock. Fill them with a burning desire to make your way known upon the earth, your saving truth among all nations. Equip all those you give to serve in public ministry with whatever they need to serve you wherever you call them. Overcome in them every inclination to timidity, and fill them with a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline. Enable them to bear the cross for your name's sake with joy and without fear or complaint. May your Holy Spirit prosper their work, so that in both teaching and life, they display the beauty of your saving truth before all nations.

And, heavenly Father, Lord of the harvest, as your Son urged us to pray, hear our prayers for even more workers like these to be sent into your harvest field. Amen.







