

CLOSING WORSHIP FOR THE SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2021

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE/GATHERING MUSIC

TAKE ME TO THE WATER

ACS #957

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: All the waters are yours, O God,
even the ferocious waves of the sea, the overflowing rivers,
the rainstorms that drown crops and herds.
We beg you to heed the cries of everyone suffering from flooding and mudslides.
As you saved Noah and the animals from the deluge,
so now save those whose lives and livelihoods are threatened.
Dry up the wild waters, that the people may live.

All the waters are yours, O God,
even stagnant rivers, and wells nearly dry,
and lakes that are merely puddles.
We beg you to heed the cries of everyone suffering from drought especially
in *California Nevada, and the Western United States.*
As you saved Hagar and Ishmael in the desert,
so now save all those creatures dying of thirst.
Pour down rain and fill up the wells, that the people may live.

We ask you, almighty Provider,
to give us the water we need,
and we praise you for the sustenance you grant at this font.
By the water of our baptism empower us
to pour out ourselves for others
and to safeguard the waters of your earth.

To you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Sea of holiness, Spring of salvation, Cloud of mystery,
be all praise and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

1*



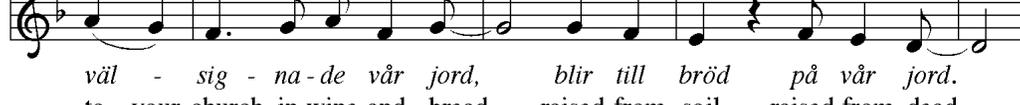
Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.

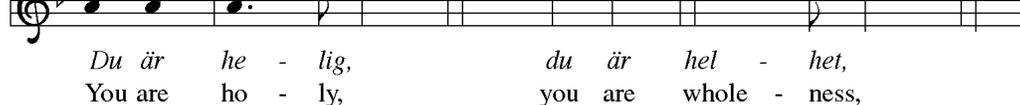


Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here

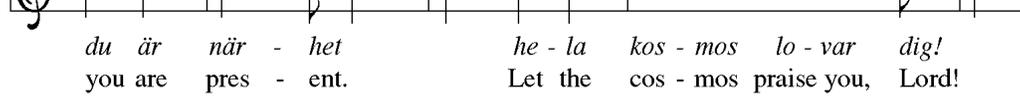


väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

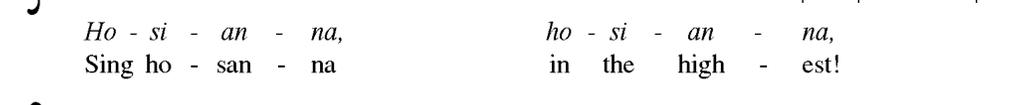
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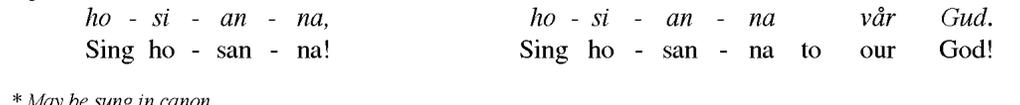
Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling

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GREETING

P: Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

C: Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

P: The grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. God of wanderers and workers, help us to see the face of Christ in all people - especially those we would so easily ignore or look past. Give us generous hearts to help those in need and to work for justice and fair treatment for all of your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

ACTS 10:44-48

BISHOP EVARISTE MUGABO, LUTHERAN CHURCH OF RWANDA

A reading from Acts.

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

L: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

C: Thanks be to God

PSALM 98

BISHOP SAMUEL CHANG, TAIWAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

¹Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²O Lord, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

⁵Sing to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the Lord.
⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.
⁸Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth.
⁹The Lord will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING

1 JOHN 5:1-6

BISHOP MEDARDO GOMEZ, SALVADOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

A reading from the first letter of John.

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

L: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL

JOHN 15:9-17

L: The holy gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

L: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

COME TO THE WATER OF LIFE

ACS #955



1 All who are thirst - y for mer - cy, all who are thirst - y for
 2 All who are thirst - y for heal - ing, all who are thirst - y for
 3 All who are thirst - y for beau - ty, all who are thirst - y for
 4 All who are thirst - y for jus - tice, all who are thirst - y for



love; all who are thirst - y for love, for mer - cy,
 touch; all who are thirst - y for touch, for heal - ing,
 truth; all who are thirst - y for truth, for beau - ty,
 peace; all who are thirst - y for peace, for jus - tice,



come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
 Music: WATER OF LIFE, Ray Makeever
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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.

INSTALLATION OF SYNOD COUNCIL MEMBERS

The names of the persons elected to synod council are read aloud

INSTALACIÓN DE MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO DEL SÍNODO

Los nombres de los que se están instalando se leen en voz alta.

L: A reading from Romans: Just as each of us has one body with many members— and these members do not have the same function—so all of us, in union with Christ, form one body. And as members of that one body, we belong to each other. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophecy, use it in proportion to your faith. If your gift is ministry, use it for service. If you are a teacher, use your gift for teaching. If you are good at preaching, then preach boldly. If you give to charity, do so generously; if you are a leader, exercise your authority with care; if you help others, do so cheerfully. (Romans 12:4-8)

L: Will you assume the office of Sierra Pacific Synod Council Member, and will you endeavor to carry out its duties faithfully, to the glory of Christ our Savior and in service to the one holy church?

R: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The leader addresses the assembly.

L: People of God, will you support and pray for this person in this work?

C: We will, and we ask God to help us.

The leader addresses those being installed.

L: The office of Sierra Pacific Synod Council Member is committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of ✠ the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Una lectura de Romanos: Pues, así como nuestro cuerpo, en su unidad, posee muchos miembros, y no desempeñan todos los miembros la misma función, así también nosotros, siendo muchos, no formamos más que un solo cuerpo en Cristo, siendo cada uno por su parte los unos miembros de los otros. Pero teniendo dones diferentes, según la gracia que nos ha sido dada, si es el don de profecía, ejerzamos en la medida de nuestra fe; si es el ministerio, en el ministerio; la enseñanza, enseñando; la exhortación, exhortando. El que da, con sencillez; el que preside, con solicitud; el que ejerce la misericordia, con jovialidad. (Romanos 12:4-8)

L: ¿Asumirás el cargo de Miembro del Consejo del Sínodo de Sierra Pacífico y tratarás de cumplir con tus deberes con fidelidad, para la gloria de Cristo nuestro Salvador y en servicio a la única iglesia santa?

R: Lo haré, y le pido a Dios que me ayude.

El líder se dirige a los que están siendo instalados.

L: Pueblo de Dios, ¿apoyarán y orarán por esta persona que hoy recibe este cargo?

C: Lo haremos, y le pedimos a Dios que nos ayude.

L: El oficio de Miembro del Consejo del Sínodo de Sierra Pacífico se te es otorgado en el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, ✠ y del Espíritu Santo.

C: Amén.

INSTALLATION OF DEANS

L: The following persons have been elected to the office of Conference Dean by their respective conferences:

The names of those being installed are read aloud.

L St. Paul writes to the church in Corinth: There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Christ is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives to everyone ability for particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person, for the good of all. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

L: You have been elected as Conference Dean. You are to provide counsel and support to the Office of the Bishop in the task of oversight; assist in carrying out the administrative, pastoral, and ecclesiastical functions in the Conferences; reflect with the Office of the Bishop on the vision of the Synod; and provide mutual support for one another.

I ask you: Are you ready to accept and faithfully to carry out the duties of the office to which you have been elected?

R: Yes, by the help of God.

L: Will you support and care for the deacons, pastors, and congregations of your conference both in prayer and presence?

R: Yes, by the help of God

INSTALACIÓN DE DECANOS

L: Las siguientes personas han sido elegidas para el cargo de Decano de sus respectivas conferencias:

Los nombres de los que se están instalando se leen en voz alta.

L: San Pablo escribe a la iglesia en Corinto: Hay diversidad de carismas, pero el Espíritu es el mismo; diversidad de ministerios, pero el Señor es el mismo; diversidad de operaciones, pero es el mismo Dios que obra en todos. A cada cual se le otorga la manifestación del Espíritu para provecho común

L: Has sido elegido como Decano de la Conferencia. Usted debe proporcionar consejo y apoyo a la Oficina del Obispo en la tarea de supervisión; ayudar en el desempeño de las funciones administrativas, pastorales y eclesiológicas en las Conferencias; reflexionar con la Oficina del Obispo sobre la visión del Sínodo; y proporcionar apoyo mutuo entre sí.

Te pregunto: ¿Estás listo para aceptar y cumplir fielmente los deberes del cargo para el que has sido elegido?

R: Sí, con la ayuda de Dios.

L: ¿Ayudarás y cuidarás a los diáconos, pastores y congregaciones de tu conferencia tanto en oración como en presencia?

R: Sí, con la ayuda de Dios.

*The Deans being installed face the assembly.
The assembly is addressed*

L: People of God, I ask you: Will you support your Conference Dean with regular prayer and participation, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

C: Yes, by the help of God.

L: I now declare you installed as Conference Deans. God bless you with the Holy Spirit, ✠ that you may prove a faithful servant of Christ.

C: Amen.

L: ¿Ayudarás y cuidarás a los diáconos, pastores y congregaciones de tu conferencia tanto en oración como en presencia?

R: Sí, con la ayuda de Dios.

Los decanos que se instalan se ponen de frente a la asamblea.

L: Pueblo de Dios, ¿apoyarán a su Decano de la Conferencia con oración y apoyo, y compartirán el ministerio mutuo que Cristo ha dado a todos los que están bautizados?

C: Sí, con la ayuda de Dios.

L: Han sido instalados como Decanos de sus conferencias. Dios les bendiga con el Espíritu Santo ✠ para que sean siervos fieles de Cristo.

C: Amén.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

L: Creator God, you have called us to be keepers of your earth. Through greed we have established an economy that destroys the web of life. We have changed our climate and we drown in despair. Let oceans of justice flow. May we learn to sustain and renew the life of our Mother Earth. We stand with indigenous people worldwide who are demanding restoration of their ancestral lands and acknowledge that even we now stand on land that is not our own but was first the land of the Miwok, Ohlone, Yokuts, Nisenan, Pomo, Modoc, Shasta, Paiute, Mono, Shosone, among others. We pray for our leaders, custodians of Mother Earth, that they may negotiate with wisdom and fairness. May they act with compassion and courage; and lead us into the path of justice for the sake of our children and our children's children. In your mercy...

C: receive our prayer.

L: Lover of justice and equity, you form all humanity to bear your divine image, and you intend for everyone to live together in harmonious dignity. We pray for all people, whether ourselves or others, but especially for our Asian American, Pacific Islander, African American, Black, Indigenous and Latinx siblings who suffer the cruelties of racial or ethnic prejudice. Grant your Spirit

of power to all who are oppressed. Give healing to victims of violence, protection to the vulnerable and abused, better housing and worthy employment to the mistreated, courage to the fearful, a remedy for rage, strength to parents and caregivers, and hope to children and youth. Purge the privileged of their sense of superiority, and lead church and society to foster communities of equity and diversity. In your mercy...

C: receive our prayer.

L: Love Divine, your divinity transcends distinctions of gender, and through the generations you widen our awareness of human diversity. We gather here before you in our various expressions of gender identity, all of us one in Christ Jesus. Bring our society to peacefulness concerning a wider understanding of gender. Give courage and healing to those who express outwardly the gender they testify as gift from you. Open the church to their witness. We ask that with your creative Spirit you cultivate new relationships, mend old wounds, and nurture communities of respect, for the sake of the one who embraces all persons in love, In your mercy...

C: receive our prayer.

L: God, our refuge and our hope, as you have accompanied your people through times of captivity, wilderness, and exile, shelter and sustain all those who flee persecution, oppression, warfare, violence, hunger, and poverty. Open our hearts and homes, our gates and doors, so that they find safety, peace, and welcome—a place to live in freedom and without fear. In your mercy...

C: receive our prayer.

L: God, our peace and our strength, we continue our prayers for those impacted by or grieving because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Protect the most vulnerable among us. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts them at great risk. Make us mindful of the sacrifices others make for our own wellbeing. In your mercy...

C: receive our prayer.

L: God of justice, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our wealth and resources that all people may find suitable and fulfilling employment and receive just payment for their labor. In your mercy...

C: receive our prayer.

L: God our consolation, we call to mind before you all those whom it would be easy to forget: the homeless, the destitute, the sick, the aged, the lonely and all who have none to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy. In your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them, and you call them to various avenues of

service. Move us by your Spirit that we may be your hands doing your work in the world together.

We give you thanks this day for those who have been willing to discern your call to serve as our next bishop. We pray for **Bishop – Elect _____** *(and their family)* as they look forward into your future for this Church. Give them your wisdom, your discerning Spirit, and your courage as they move into this new call.

We give you thanks for the extended ministry of *Bishop Mark, the Reverend Katy Grindberg, the Reverend Kathryn Gulbranson, the Reverend Tita Vileriano, Deacon Margy Schmitt-Ajer, Kathye Hamm, Rachel Line, the Reverend Bill Wong, Diana Barrios, and Debbie Cook* among the people of God in this place. You watch over our going out and our coming in: bless this time of ending and beginning. You surround your people in every time and place: keep us close in your love. You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial: prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together; heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us. Help *these servants, their families* and all of us to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us. As *they have* been a blessing to us, so now send *them* forth to be a blessing to others. In your mercy...

C: receive our prayer.

L: God of all time and places, we give thanks for our ancestors and ancestors in faith. May we all be comforted in our grief and gentle with those in sorrow. We remember the rostered ministers from our synod that died in the past year: Pr. Fayette Massingill, Pr. Mike Walton, Pr. David Preisinger, Pr. Lyman Tracy, Pr. Jim Patterson, Pr. David Olson, Pr. Peter Nunn, Pr. Bill Roleder, Pr. Roger Johnson, Pr. Jaclyn Koehnke, Pr. James R. Anderson, Pr. Hartley F. Lee, Pr. Bonnie Jean LeRud Erickson Bell, Pr. James Kenneth Laber, Pr. Charles C. Kuo, Pr. Dr. George N. Thune, Pr. Steven A. Haggmark, Pr. Ralph Herman, Pr. Thomas John Unmacht, Pr. Roland E. “Roly” Grumm, Pr. Jack Ericson, Pr. Erwin G. “Erv” Walz, Pr. John H. “Jack” Elliott, Pr. Richard H. “Dick” Mathison ... and those beloved to us whom we name now...*(silence for names)*... May we trust in the promise until we are gathered again with them in your loving presence. In your mercy

C: receive our prayer.

P: Trusting in your mercy, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, your beloved child,

C: Amen.

PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MUSICAL OFFERING

NOW ALL THE VAULT OF HEAVEN RESOUNDS

Arr. by Derek Sup

Choir of the East Bay Lutheran Parish

Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947,

Directed by Derek Sup alt., Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623

OFFERING

*All donations will be given to the following organizations, one-third each:
Sierra Pacific Synod Candidacy Scholarships, ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response, and Mt. Cross Ministries
You may make your donation anytime by clicking on the link below.*

[DONATE NOW](#)

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

L: Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of Jesus, the Word made flesh. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language and translation of our hearts:

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING OF THE CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY VOTING MEMBERS

L: Let us pray for those elected to be voting members at the 2022 Churchwide Assembly.

The names of those elected are read aloud

Gracious God, we give you thanks for your servants who have said yes to your call for deliberation and learning with other members of the ELCA from around this country. Grant them safe travel, wisdom in deliberation, joy in learning, worship, and

fellowship, and hearts open to where you are leading all of us. In the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior, we pray.

C: Amen

BENEDICTION

P: Beloved in Christ, remember that you are God's own, loved, cherished and forgiven. Trust in the Spirit who leading and guiding your work and your hearts, through ✝ Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen

SENDING SONG

THE LORD NOW SENDS US FORTH

ELW #538

En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,

pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.

Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain

un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;

me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.

A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America
English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

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CLOSING OF THE ASSEMBLY

B: Jesus said: You will be my witnesses

C: to the ends of the earth.

B: I chose you and appointed you

C: to bear fruit that will last.

B: Remember, I will be with you always,

C: to the end of time.

B: God be with you.

C: And also with you.

B: Let us pray. Direct us, God, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and extend to us your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

**B: O God, our beginning and our end,
you kept Abraham and Sarah in safety
throughout the days of their pilgrimage,
you led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea,
and by a star you led the magi to the infant Jesus.
Protect and guide us now as we set out to travel.
Make our ways safe and our homecomings joyful,
and bring us at last to our heavenly home,
where you dwell in glory with our Savior, Jesus Christ
and the life-giving Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

**B: I declare this assembly closed
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, ✝ and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**