



METROPOLITAN NEW YORK SYNOD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

SERVICE OF THE WORD WITH SETTING APART OF SYNOD DEACONS

Saturday in the Fourth Week after Pentecost

June 19, 2021 ☩ 9:30 am

Saint Peter's Lutheran Church

Huntington Station, New York

PRELUDE

At the conclusion of the Prelude, the assembly stands.

A LITANY FOR JUNETEENTH

Celebration rises, up from the deep places,
finding voice in the light and air no longer denied.

**Lift every voice and sing, sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.**

Celebration rises, not blind to the suffering, not blind to the sorrow.
Celebration comes at a cost.

**Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed.**

Celebration rises, remembering the way we have come,
the paths taken that have brought us here now to this place and time of celebration.
Celebration rises, up and up, full of remembering.

Remembering the ones led to freedom by Harriet;
Remembering lives and freedom stolen.

**We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past till now we stand at last where the white gleam
of our bright star is cast.**

Celebration rises, recognizing what has been done and left undone,
knowing there is still and yet much to do, so much further to go.
Celebration rises, naming the victories, recognizing the challenges yet ahead.
Celebration rises on voices offering unfinished praise.

**Lest our feet stray from the places,
our God where we met thee;
lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world we forget thee;**

Celebration rises, resisting illusions,
to be embraced by the real and abiding presence of God who breaks our chains,
and sets us free for freedom, in power and love and joy.

**God of our weary years, God of our silent tears
thou who hast brought us thus far on our way;
thou who has by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.**

Celebration rises, with the power of healing wings and promise to endure.
Celebration rises, celebrating that by God's grace,
I am because You are, You are because I am;
Celebrating that the fullness of my humanity does not diminish yours
and the fullness of your humanity does not diminish mine.

**Shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand, true to our God,
true to our native land.**

**True to who we are, True to who we have been and who we are becoming,
thanks be to God.**

GATHERING SONG

Refrain - All

We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the Lord;

trust-ing in his ho - ly word, he's nev - er failed us yet.

Oh, can't turn a - round, we've come this

far by faith. We've come this far by faith.

1 Just remember
the good things God has done,
things that seemed impossible;
oh, praise him for the vict'ries he has won.

2 Don't be discouraged
with trouble in your life;
he'll bear your burdens,
and move all the discord and strife.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, through the ages you have called your people to the diaconate in the church. Let your blessing rest now on all who answer that call. Grant them understanding of the gospel, sincerity of purpose, diligence in ministry, and the beauty of life in Christ, that many people will be served and your name be glorified through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly sits.

READING ✠ MICAH 6:6-8

“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Silence for reflection.

PSALM 40:1-11

The refrain is sung by the cantor, the verses are read responsively.

A musical score for Psalm 40:1-11, featuring a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked as 120. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The vocal line includes lyrics: "You are my help and my res - cue - er. My God, do not de - lay." The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand. Chord markings above the vocal line include A^b, D^b sus, A^b, and D^b. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a "3" and a bracket. The piece concludes with a "vamp in Ab".

I waited patiently upon the Lord,
who stooped to me and heard my cry.

**The Lord lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

The Lord put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and they shall trust the Lord.

Happy are they who trust in the Lord!

They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies. *Refrain*

Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God! In your plans for us,
none can be compared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them!

But they are more than I can count.

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;

**you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have
not required.**

And so I said, "Here I am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

**'I love to do your will, O my God;
your law is deep within me.'**

I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O Lord, you know.

**I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your
faithfulness and your deliverance;**

**I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great
assembly.**

You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me;
may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe. *Refrain*

READING ✠ 1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-13

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Silence for reflection.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sung before and after the reading of the gospel.

God is love. God is love; let us love one an -

The first line of musical notation is in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The melody is written on the treble clef staff, and the accompaniment is on the bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "God is love. God is love; let us love one an -".

oth-er as God first loved us. God is love.

The second line of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "oth-er as God first loved us. God is love.".

God is love. God is love.

The third line of musical notation concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "God is love. God is love.".

THE HOLY GOSPEL ✠ MATTHEW 25:31-40

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows.

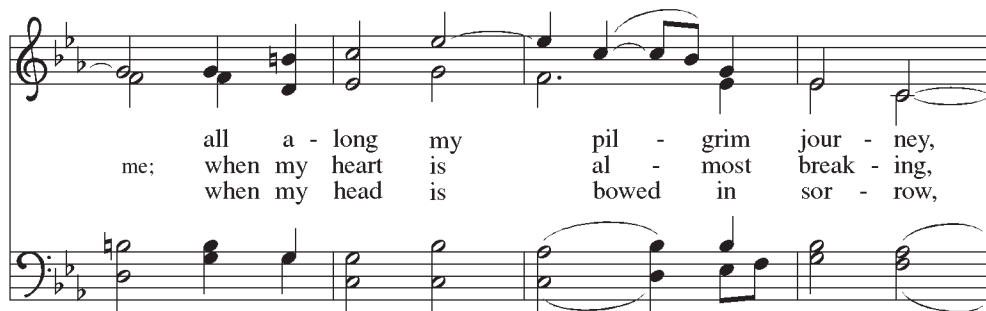
HYMN OF THE DAY



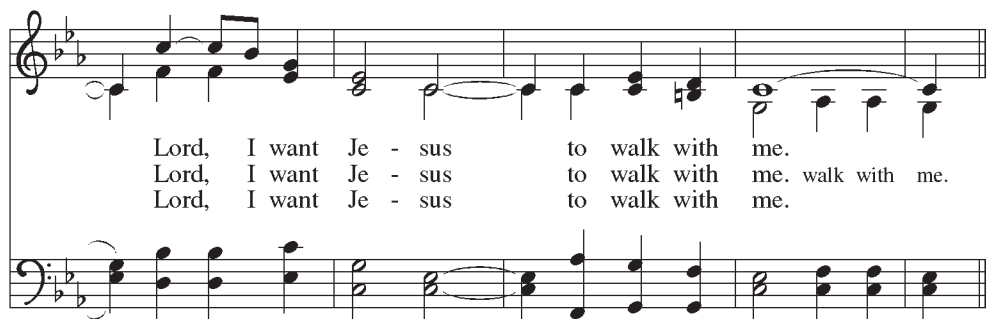
1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

PRESENTATION & ADDRESS TO CANDIDATES

The candidates for the diaconate are each presented to the bishop and the assembly.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **Stephen Bennett**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by Gustavus Adolphus, Manhattan.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **James Blewett**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by Good Shepherd, Plainview.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **Douglas Jenkins**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by Grace, Yorktown Heights.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **Berthe Razafindramaro**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by Gustavus Adolphus, Manhattan.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **Saint Clair Eugene Reide, Jr.**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by Prince of Peace, Cambria Heights.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **Renee Hamilton-Taylor**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by St. Luke's, New Rochelle.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **Jameson Wells**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by St. James, Brooklyn.

I present for setting apart to the office of synod deacon, **Margaret Wenger**, who has been prepared and approved by the Metropolitan New York Synod and called by Good Shepherd, Plainview.

Thanks be to God.

The candidates remain standing while the assembly sits.

All baptized Christians are called to share in Christ's ministry of love and service in the world, to the glory of God and for the sake of the human family and the whole creation.

The church calls deacons to speak God's Word, the gospel and the apostolic faith, to God's world. It also calls them to speak for the needs of God's world to the Church. This call is a call to public witness and service that exemplifies Christ-like self-giving and leads the Church and all its baptized members to witness to Christ in the world.

Diaconal ministry reflects the historic call of deacons to serve those most in need on behalf of the Church. You have been called to the diaconate to give leadership in the Church's mission to proclaim the gospel through word and deed. Therefore serve the needy, care for the sick, comfort the distressed, and through words and actions, witness to God's love for all people.

In the exercise of diaconal ministry cross every barrier that stands between the Church and its ministry in the broader world. Seek out those places where the gospel of Jesus Christ meets human need. Serve Christ with pastors and bishops, and other deacons. Empower, equip, and support all the baptized in the ministry of Jesus Christ. Lead us all in proclaiming the gospel in witness and service.

As Saint Paul teaches: "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord 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 Cor. 12:4-7)

QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

The bishop questions the candidates.

Before almighty God, to whom you must give account, and in the presence of this assembly, I ask: Will you accept this ministry, and as a servant of God perform the

work of a deacon in the Church?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

The Church in which you will serve confesses that the Holy Scriptures are the Word of God and are the norm of its faith and life. We accept, teach, and confess the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds. We also acknowledge the Lutheran Confessions as true witnesses and faithful expositions of the Holy Scriptures. Will you serve in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and these creeds and confessions?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the Holy Scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace and in prayer?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you witness in word and deed, and by your own example encourage God's people in faithful service and holy living?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

The assembly stands. The bishop and candidates turn to face the assembly.

QUESTION TO THE ASSEMBLY

The bishop questions the assembly.

People of God, will you support these men and women, set apart to the office of synod deacon to serve God's people? Will you pray for them, help and honor them for their work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in peace and unity of Christ?

We will, and we ask God to help us.

THANKSGIVING

The candidates kneel. The bishop begins the thanksgiving.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We thank you for sending your son, Jesus, your Word in flesh who proclaimed your kingdom in words and deeds of service to the poor and suffering. Christ took on himself the form of a servant for the sake of all. He showed us that whoever would be great must be servant of all. We praise you for the many ministries in your Church, and for calling these your servants to this ministry of service.

The bishop extends a hand towards the head of each candidate.

Heavenly Father, pour out your Holy Spirit upon *name*, called to be a synod deacon in your Church.

Bless their service, that they may worthily exercise the ministry entrusted to them. Let their life and teaching so reflect your grace that many may come to know you and love you through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The office of synod deacon is committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

VESTING

The new deacons are presented with diaconal crosses and stoles. The bishop says:

Receive this cross and stole as a sign that you are to serve as Christ served, humbling himself and taking the form of a servant.

BLESSING

The deacons remain kneeling.

The God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to who be glory forever and ever.

Amen.

ACCLAMATION

The deacons face the assembly while a representative of the Synod Diaconal Council leads the acclamation.

Dear Christian friends: baptized into the priesthood of Christ, we are called by the Holy Spirit to offer ourselves to the Lord of all creation. We praise God as we join together to bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

The God of all grace who has called you to glory support you and make you strong.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As God's people, called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the church, the whole human family, and all the world.

Mighty God, as we come before your glory, fill us with your Spirit, renew our vision, restore our faith, refresh your church. Lord, we pray that the whole church may wait upon you and share generously the gifts of the Spirit. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, empower the church throughout the world in its life and witness.

Holy Spirit bless Elizabeth, bishop of our church; Paul, our bishop of our synod and the people of the Metropolitan New York Synod that united in your truth and love, the church may confess your name, rejoice in one baptism, sit together at one table and serve you in one common ministry. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, walk with all who have been called to serve you in rostered ministry, especially as synod deacons. May they and all those chosen to serve your church in

this time and place be faithful servants, lead your people wisely and guide them in your ways. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, we pray for the leaders of the nations, that they may serve with integrity and justice and that they may be aware that their gifts and power come from you. We pray for world unity and peace, for the time when the kingdoms of the world will become the kingdom of Christ our Lord and turn to ways of peace and understanding.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Compassionate God, your Son gives rest to those weary with heavy burdens. Heal the sick in body, mind and spirit. Lift up the depressed. Befriend those who grieve. Comfort the anxious. Stand with all victims of abuse and other crimes. We pray for those in prison and for all who are entrusted with their care. Give them compassion and the ability to see our common humanity in all. Fill all people with your Holy Spirit that they may bear each other's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ.

God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Eternal God, we give thanks that when we face death we have hope; you renew us by your spirit and restore us in your love. We pray for all who have passed through death and rejoice in life eternal. God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

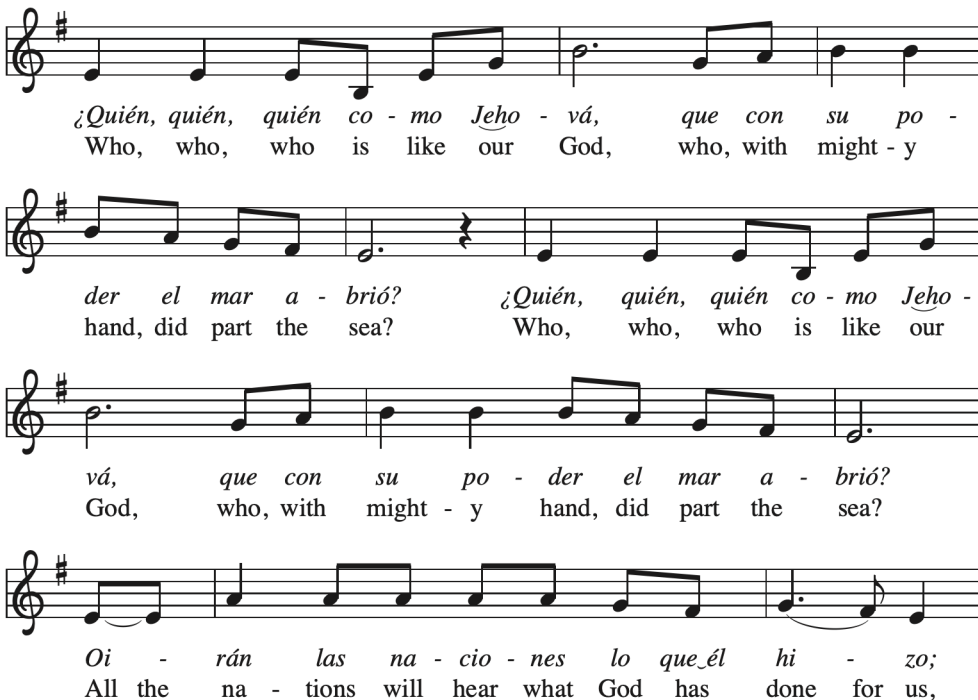
AT THE OFFERING

The offering is received for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund, which supports ministers and other rostered leaders in times of crisis or opportunity. Write checks payable to "Metro NY Synod."

Alternatively, open the camera on your phone and scan the code below to make a donation electronically.



HYMN OF THANKSGIVING



¿Quién, quién, quién co - mo Jeho - vá, que con su po -
Who, who, who is like our God, who, with might - y

der el mar a - brió? ¿Quién, quién, quién co - mo Jeho -
hand, did part the sea? Who, who, who is like our

vá, que con su po - der el mar a - brió?
God, who, with might - y hand, did part the sea?

Oi - rán las na - cio - nes lo que él hi - zo;
All the na - tions will hear what God has done for us,



tem - bla - rán cuan - do ve - an sus pro - di gios.
and will trem - ble to see such signs and won - ders.



Su pue - blo le_a - la - ba - rá, con pan - de - ro dan - za - rá,
Let God's peo - ple praise and sing, dance with joy and tam - bou - rines.



y di - rán, “¿Quién, quién co - mo Jeho - vá?”
Let them say, “Who, who is like our God?”

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Holy God, our Maker, our Healer, our Teacher,
your magnificent creation springs forth from your Word.
All that has life and breath praises your name.
For your Word that sustains the earth, we thank you, O God.

We thank you, O God.

You sent us Jesus, your Word, to renew the world.
He healed the sick, fed the hungry,
preached your mercy, and called us to faith.
For your Word in our Lord Christ, we praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

Nourish us with the Spirit of your Word,
that we may grow in grace, bearing the fruits of redemption,
and sharing your strength and beauty with all the world.
For your Word in our lives, we entreat you, O God.

We entreat you, O God.

Accept our thanksgiving and receive our prayer,
for the sake of your living Word, Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

OUR FATHER

**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.**

BENEDICTION

The God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march-ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. light of God. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march-ing in the light of God. si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba _____ oo _____
We are march - ing _____ oo _____

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba _____ oo _____
We are march - ing _____ oo _____

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march-ing in the light of God.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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