

***FAITH LUTHERAN
CHURCH***

*170 Mansfield Ave.
Mount Vernon, Ohio 43050
(740) 393-3666*

Pastor
Rev. Cody Blust

Secretary
Pat Hoar

Music Director
Rebecca Keck

Bell Choir Director
Shelley Grubb

Gardens
Steve Conrad

Grounds
Will Melick

Custodian
Randy Peck



***OUR MISSION STATEMENT
“TO KNOW AND SHARE GOD’S LOVE”
INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH!!***

***Time after Pentecost
July 12, 2026***

***Worship Times 8:00 and 10:00 am
Fellowship Time 9:15 am***

† Indicates: Please Stand if Comfortable

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude: There is a Balm on Gilead

Spiritual

† **Call To Worship: 715 Christ, Be Our Light** vs. 2

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for
hope, many despair. Your word alone
has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice.
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gathered today.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose compassion endures
forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

**C: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we
cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your
yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in
your peace. In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.**

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying
heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in
God's love.

C: Amen.

† **Hymn 679 For the Fruit of All Creation**

† **GREETING**

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

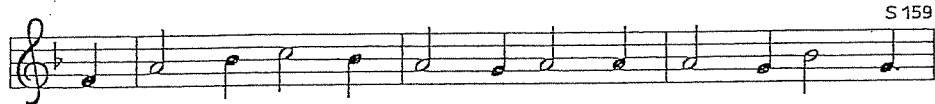


Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



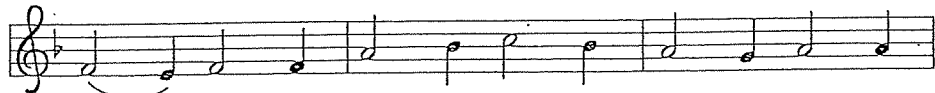
Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

All Glory Be to God on High



S 159

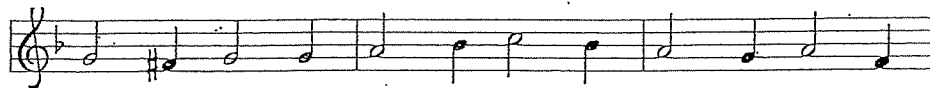
1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
 3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we



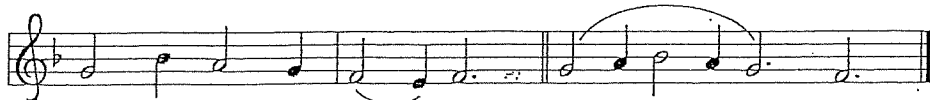
giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
 au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes
 name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one



will break forth from heav - en! Lord God Al-might - y,
 sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to
 liv - ing, God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord



heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
 ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er - blest, in



praise you for your glo - ry.
 ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.
 God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray:

Almighty God,

we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Special Music: In the Garden

by Miles

Soloist Caroline Pletcher

First Lesson: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Psalm: 65:9-13 (*congregation reads the verses in bold*)

⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very
plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys
cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

Second Lesson: Romans 8:1-11

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.





6

Gospel Text: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!"

¹⁸ "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

YOUTH MESSAGE

SERMON : "Planting in Good Soil"

Hymn: 512 Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

† APOSTLES' CREED (*Page 105*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

† INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

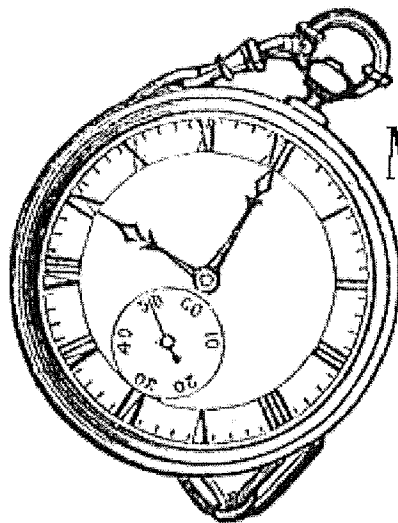
P: God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

† SHARING THE PEACE

The Offertory: More Precious than Silver

by DeShazo



My times are
in Thy hand



Create in Me a Clean Heart

Offering Song

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

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

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

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

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

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us join together in praying the Lord's Prayer:

C: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen.

Hymn 547 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

DISMISSAL

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Crown Him with Many Crowns

by Elvey

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WELCOME to the worship of the people of God who are Faith Lutheran Church. May you feel the presence of the Lord in our midst and hear His Word spoken to your heart. For more information contact us at faithlutheranmtvernon@gmail.com or check out our website at FLCMTV.org. Our mission at Faith Church is **To Know And Share God's Love.**

IF you are a **GUEST**, you are invited to sign our guest book in the narthex with your name, and contact information, so we may give you a cordial welcome, and an invitation to return to worship with us soon. If you have children, please check out our Children's Activity Center on the wall in the narthex. Changing tables are

available in Room 207 and Room 211 (Nursery). There is also a private mothers' space available in Room 214. Contact an usher if you need assistance.

FLOWERS on the altar are given by ***Ken & Holly Fischer*** to the glory of God and in honor of their parents.

FIRST FRIDAYS

The next First Friday will be August 7th from 6:00 - 9:00 pm.

The theme will be “Paws on Parade.”

The event theme will feature a dog friendly evening with a dog costume contest, food trucks, family activities, and local vendors. Faith Lutheran will be part of the First Friday events with a booth on Main Street. We are looking for volunteers to help out with the events doing things like setting up, talking to people or running games, and cleaning up our booth after the event. There is a sign-up sheet by the church kitchen volunteers are asked to sign up on. If you have questions, please reach out to Pastor Cody or Kaitlyn for more information.

SPECIAL THANKS

We want to thank Caroline Pletcher for sharing her musical talents with us today.

MARY MARTHA BIBLE STUDY

The middle of summer is almost here, and you can use a break. The Bible study is titled, "I Am Worthy " and this session is titled, "I Am One More Thing" Join us, Tuesday, July 14th 1:00pm Room 210. Laurel Johnson will be leading the study, and refreshments will be provided by Marilyn Wilford

PRESCHOOL DESIGNATED FUND

The Preschool recently informed the church council that they are having financial challenges. Unfortunately, the church does not have the funds available to assist them. However, the church council did vote to create a Preschool Designated Fund to which members can donate money that will be given to the Preschool. If you wish to donate to this fund, please put your contribution in an envelope marked “Preschool Fund” and place it in the offering plate.

“ATTITUDE of GRATITUDE”

Jot down something you are thankful for on one of our yellow slips and put it in the little blue box.

INFORMATION FOR YOU - July 19th

Dave Keck has served on the ELCA Task Force for Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust Social Statement Reconsiderations since 2024. The task force is seeking feedback from congregations and Dave will present information to us in regard to "Conscience and Conversation: A Study during the Reconsideration of the Social Statement Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust". The information about this can also be accessed through the ELCA website. Dave will present information at the time between services on July 19th. So, bring your coffee and snacks to room 210 at 9am to hear what the ELCA is considering.

SUNDAY MORNINGS & SUNDAY SCHOOL

I am looking for a team to consider helping with the planning for the upcoming Sunday education time. I would like to set a date and time from July 18 thru July 26. Date and time will depend on the best for those interested in the planning process. Any suggestions are very welcome. Please contact Marilyn Wilford (330) 464-3279 call or text.

GOOD GIFTS

The Faith Women's Board would like to thank all of you who donated to our ELCA Good Gifts fund this year. Because of your generosity we were able to purchase a community vegetable garden and a computer with internet access for a community center as well as 2 goats and \$20.00 worth of chicks. These ELCA gifts provide critical support to our brothers and sisters in various parts of the world including the United States.

You have made a great impact on the family of God. Thank you!

SCHOOL KITS

With the beginning of back to school sales we are preparing for a new mission opportunity at Faith: Lutheran World Relief School Kits.

In many parts of the world children don't attend school because they don't have access to school supplies. When LWR School Kits find their way to these areas children are blessed with precious, needed supplies and school attendance goes up.

As you shop in the coming days, please be on the lookout for these supplies:

70 sheet spiral notebooks	4	each kit
Black or blue ballpoint pens	5	each kit
Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers	5	each kit
Box of 16 or 24 crayons	1	each kit
Pencil sharpener	1	each kit
30 cm ruler	1	each kit
Pair of blunt scissors	1	each kit
2 1/2 inch eraser	1	each kit

Please put your donations in the Lutheran World Relief basket.

Thank you all for your generosity!

See Kathy Noblit if you have any questions.

SERVING OUR LORD TODAY

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:00 am</u>
Ushers	Frank & Kathy O'Hare	Stephen Volz Tim Williams
Reader s	Kathy Noblit	Sally Berger
Acolyte	Will Melick	Connor Driscoll
Altar Guild - Kathy Noblit		
Tellers - Cheryl Johnson & Will Melick		

SERVING OUR LORD NEXT SUNDAY

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:00 am</u>
Ushers	Rick & Patty Keaton	Stan & Jill Park
Readers	Peg Snow	Shelley Grubb
Comm. Assist.	Kevin Mishey	Dianne Williams
Acolyte	Bette Mishey	Dave Keck
Altar Guild - Kathy Noblit		
Communion Committee - Shelley Grubb		
Tellers - Cheryl Johnson & Will Melick		

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

I need to let all of you know that the balance in our general fund is critically low. The council had a special meeting this June 22nd to vote to transfer funds from four dormant designated funds to cover the expenses for the remainder of the month. This will help with the current shortfall but is not enough to carry us through July.

Some of the factors that have contributed to this situation are higher snow removal costs during the winter, the doubling of utility costs, the loss of three generous giving units, and two Sunday services that had to be cancelled. I am asking all of us to review our regular contributions to the church and consider increasing our giving, either on a regular or short-term basis. It's also important to remember that the expenses of the congregation continue regardless of how many people attend services. Not everyone can attend each week, and in the summer weekly attendance is usually lower due to vacations and travel. Please do your best to continue your regular donations even when you can't attend. Feel free to talk to me or any other council member if you have questions or concerns about this issue.

In Christ's love,
Sally Berger,
Council President

FAITH EVENTS

740-393-3666 email: faithlutheranmtvernon@gmail.com

Website: FLCMTV.org

YouTube Address

<https://www.youtube.com/@FaithLutheranChurchMTVernon>

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF JULY 12 - 18, 2026

Today:	8 & 10:00 am	Worship
	9:15 am	Fellowship Time
Mon	7:30 pm	AA
Tues	9:00 - 12:00pm	Green Teens
	1:00 pm	Mary Martha Bible Study
Wed	10:00 am	Quilters
		Faithlines Deadline
Thurs	9:00 am	SPOT (formerly TOPS)
Fri	6:00 pm	Euchre at Eastern Star, Iris Section

PLEASE PRAY FOR: MEMBERS: Bob & Kathy Atwell, Jordan & Nico Barnard, Phyllis Bigler, Vicki Blubaugh, Joe Curran, Larry Everhard, Jan Frye, Eileen Hartman, Jon, Carolyn Jacquet, Ann Jurkowitz, Kathy Lamb, Betty McDonald, Judy Mustaine, Dan Myers, Kathy Noblit, Stan Park, Fran Smyser, Mariana Wolk.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Linda, Marie, Linda Beach, Devin Boyer, Nora Burke & family, Purell Butts, Mike C. ,**Ben Cable**, Aaron Everhard, Nick Frost, Kayla Gadd, Linda Galyon, Chester Gingerich, Grant, Lon Hamby, Susan Jeffery, John Jones, Eddie and Miranda Jones, Beth Kost, Danny Jurkowitz, Barb, Marv & Rob Keck, Dean & Marilyn Kempton, Debra Kempton, Jerry Kies, Alan (Ann Dice's brother), Dr. William McFarren, Jim Major (friend of Pastor Mark Wildermuth) Greg & Grace Maxwell, Scott Mickley, Tina Miller, Donald Morehour, Sue Moreland, Anderson O'Briskie, Clarence, Quinton (friend of Alex Jones), Shirley Ramsay, Julie & Brian Ramsey, Bruce Renne, Jan Rice, Sam Robert, Mona Russell and Heather & Danielle, Karen Scott, Wayne Snyder, Gabe & Micah Stauffer, Willow Steiner, an 8 month old with "Spitz" cancer, Martha Stuller, Becky Thomas, Josie Watts, **Mary Leigh Wildermuth and family**, Adam Wilford, Pam Wolfe, Karen Zedeker, and all others on our hearts and minds.

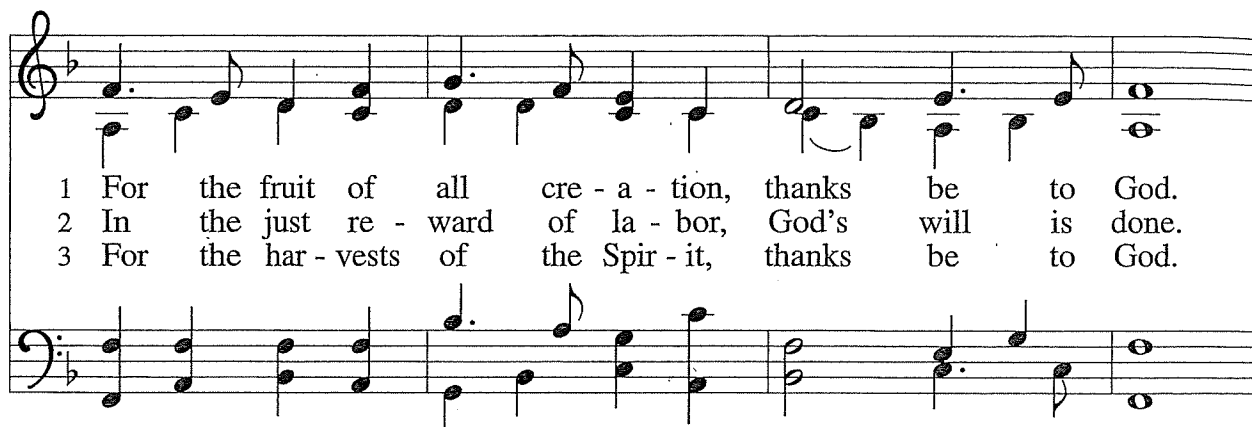
PRAYER SHAWL RECIPIENTS (in the last three months): Kyle Steele, Stephen DeFoe, Hannah, the family of Julia Shepherd, Laura, Coleen Hamon, Karen McCorkhill, Barb Gottschling, Ann Owens, Marianna Wolk, Billie Maglott, **Esther Gillett**.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY: Gavin Thomas, Master Sargent Christopher Dominick.

Bold indicates new.

679

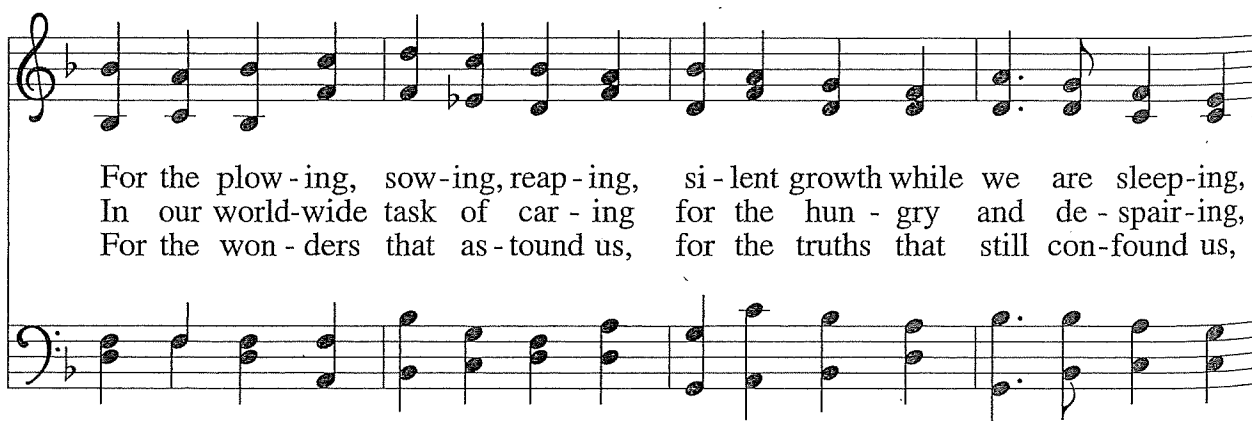
For the Fruit of All Creation



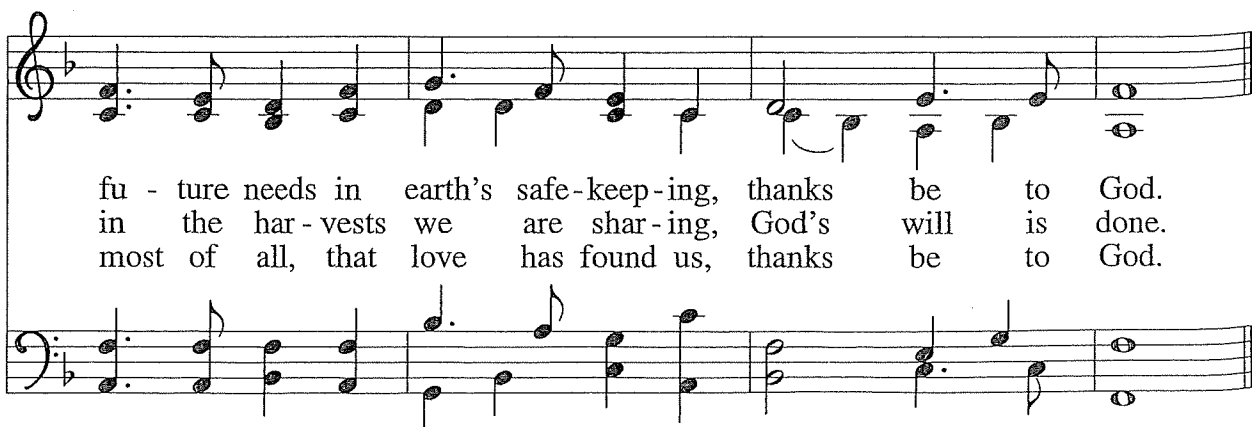
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

512



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
Music: Handt Hanson

GOOD SOIL
PM

547

Sent Forth by God's Blessing



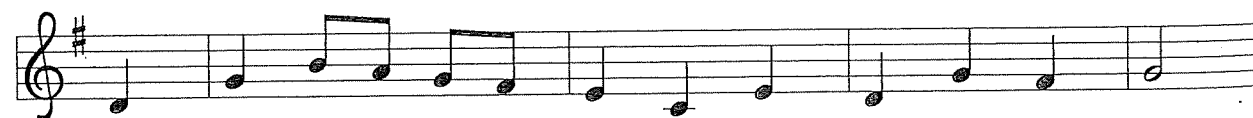
1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



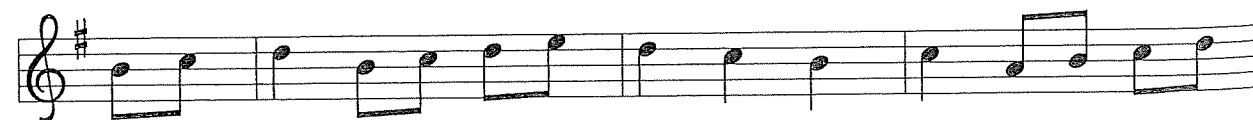
the peo - ple of God from this dwell-ing take leave.
 the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
 our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
 em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



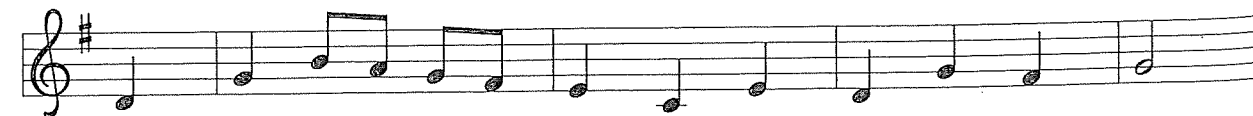
The seed of Christ's teach-ing, re - cep - tive souls
 With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach-ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
 lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
 Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
 give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.