



### Opening Hymn

"Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling" (#318 *Lutheran Worship*)  
 "How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord" (#879 *HS 98*)

### Opening Prayer

*Lord Jesus Christ, in compassion for Your harried, harassed and wandering sheep, You called on Your Church to pray for workers to enter the harvest field of souls. As we study Your Word, the light to our way, open our eyes to the ways in which we might be an answer to its prayers and care for those You died to save. Amen.*

### God's Road

God is on the road. He is looking for His children. In His love, our Father made them to be with Him forever. But they turned away from Him and went their own way. Like little children separated from their parents in a store, they are confused and afraid. They do not know where to go or what to do.

In the following passages, God describes His journey, His mission, to find His lost sheep. Read each Scripture. What does God say He will do for the lost?

Isaiah 42:1-4

Matthew 20:25-28

Luke 15:4-7

John 3:16-17

John 14:16-17

John 14:25-26

### On the Road with God

Our Father found us! He sent His Son to die for us, forgive us and bring us home. Now nothing can separate us from His love. Now He invites us, His Church, called by the Holy Spirit, enlightened by His gifts, to go on the road with Him. He wants us also to find the lost. Read the passages below. What does God call us to do in them? What strength, gifts or blessings does He provide to help us on our way?

Isaiah 42:6-8

Matthew 28:18-20

Luke 21:12-19

Luke 24:47-48

John 20:21

1 Peter 2:9-10

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1 Peter 3:15-16

Jude 22-23

## Why Me?

When God calls, we often count our weaknesses, rather than notice our strengths. Why would God ever want us to serve? In the following passages, we hear stories of those God called to serve. How did they react to God's invitation to care for His people?

What does God do for each one to strengthen them for the tasks He will call them to do?

Exodus 3:1-15, 4:1, 10-17

Isaiah 6:1-8

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Luke 5:1-11

Acts 6:1-7

Acts 9:1-16

## Many Gifts, Same Lord

No two people are exactly the same. Even identical twins have different personalities, strengths and weaknesses. When God calls us, when He gives us our vocation, it is very personal. No one else will do. He calls us by name. The following passages talk about the variety of tasks God calls His people to do. What roles do each of these Scriptures describe? What qualities are needed in people who perform these roles? What has God called the people in your Bible class to do?

Acts 20:28

Romans 12:3-8

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

1 Corinthians 12:27-31

1 Timothy 3:1-7

1 Timothy 3:8-13

2 Timothy 2:20-26

Titus 1:5-9

1 Peter 4:10-11

## Here I Am!

God calls each one of us to serve Him, our neighbors and the church. Some are called to serve as pastors or in full-time roles that support the work of pastors. Others serve as congregation officers, Sunday school teachers. Some work long hours to meet the needs of neighbors. Perhaps He is calling you to full-time service in the church. No matter what the call may be, the Lord still says: "Who should I send? Who will go for us?" To the call of His love, we answer: "Here I am! Send me!"

## Closing Prayer

*Lord of the living harvest that whitens on the plain,  
where angels soon shall gather  
their sheaves of golden grain,  
accept these hands to labor,  
these hearts to trust and love,  
and with them ever hasten  
your kingdom from above. Amen.*

—Rev. Robert Smith