

2002 Companion Synod Sunday Worship Helps

Worship materials to enhance the Southeastern Minnesota Synod relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Columbia and the Central Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.



April 2002

Dear Friends,

A resolution passed at the 1999 synod assembly encourages congregations to observe Companion Synod Sunday. The resolution's intent is to set this observance each year on Pentecost Sunday, when "the Church of Christ was born as a cross-cultural reality."

These worship materials include suggested liturgy and hymns to include in worship on May 19, 2002 (Pentecost) or another Sunday if you like, to highlight our companion relationship with the people of the Central Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Columbia.

Cordially,
The Southeastern Minnesota Synod's Global Mission Committee

Background

Tanzania

In late 1989 the Southeastern Minnesota Synod was linked with the Central Diocese of Tanzania as Companion Synods. The relationship has developed through exchange visits, sharing teachers and renovating the buildings at Kiomboi Lutheran Bible Institute, and forming sister congregation partnerships.

Columbia

At its 1994 assembly, the Southeastern Minnesota Synod voted to enter into a companion synod relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Columbia. At that time there were 12 organized Lutheran congregations in Columbia. Today the IELCO is made up of 14 congregations and 7 missions. This partnership has made the purchase of a house and farm for the Lutheran School of Theology and a retreat center possible.

Suggested Hymns:

- WOV #612 *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*
- WOV #708 *Grains of Wheat* (sung during Communion)
- WOV #765 *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*
- WOV #784 *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore*
- WOV #791 *Alabaré*
- WOV #795 *O Sing to the Lord*
- WOV #678 *Christ Has Arisen, Allelujah*
- WOV #687 *Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading*
- WOV #712 *Listen, God Is Calling*

Other Resources:

The web site, www.elca.org/dgm has other ideas and information about Tanzania and Columbia and the church at work around the world. It also features downloadable "Tool Kits" about each country.

Invocation, Apostolic Greeting, and Benediction in Spanish and Swahili

Swahili pronunciation help:

Vowels	a	as in	mom
	e	as in	may
	i	as in	see
	o	as in	old
	u	as in	too

The accent almost always falls on the second last syllable.

Invocation

English:	In the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit
Spanish:	En el nombre del Padre, del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo
Swahili:	Katika jina la Mungu Baba, na la Mwana, na la Roho Mtakatifu, Amen

Apostolic Greeting

English:	The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Spanish:	La gracia de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, el amor de Dios y la comunión del Espíritu Santo sea con todos Ustedes.
Swahili:	Neemah ya Bwana Yesu Kristo, na upendo wa Mungu, na usharika wa Roho Mtakatifu, ukae nasi sote, sasa na hata milele, Amen

Benediction

English:	The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace.
Spanish:	El Señor te bendiga y te guarde, haga el Señor resplandecer su rostro sobre ti y tenga di tí misericordia. Vuelva el Señor su rostro a tí y te conceda la paz.
Swahili:	Rwana akubarikie na kukulinda, Bwana akuangazie, nuru za uso wake na kukufadhili, Bwana akuinulie, uso wake nakukupa, Amen

Commitment to Mission Litany

From "Global Worship Service of Word and Prayer," the 1999 Global Mission Tool Kit

- L: Sisters and brothers, let us stand and affirm that we have discovered God's will in the company of each other. This we believe:
- All: That we worship one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in whose image we are made, to whose service, we are summoned, by whose presence we renewed;
- L: To this we are committed:
- All: That it is central to the mission of Christ to participate, by word and action, in the struggles of the poor for justice; to share justly the earth's land and resources; to rejoice in the diversity of human culture; to preserve human life in all its beauty and frailty; to accompany each other spreading the Gospel and to be the stranger in other places in the world, and to witness every day – to the love of God for people of the earth;
- L: To this we are committed:
- All: That we are called to witness in the world. To open ourselves to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit which comes through relationships with the people in other lands, to take the risk of walking with, speaking for and ministering with those who are different from ourselves. This is the way we serve our Lord and Savior.
- L: To this we are committed:
- All: That God has called the church into being to be the servant of the kingdom, to walk together in community with all nations of the world as a sign of God's new order, to celebrate in the streets and fields of every land the liturgy of heaven;
- L: To this we are committed:
- All: That Christ, fully aware of our differences, prays that we might be one so that the world may believe.
- All: To this we are committed for the love of God, in the way of Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.