



Leader: In the name of our Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Sing or say together:

**Hark, the voice of Jesus crying, “Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting Who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth; Rich reward He offers thee,
Who will answer, gladly saying, “Here am I, send me, send me”?**

**If you cannot speak like angels, If you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus, You can say He died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked with the judgement’s dread alarms,
You can lead the little children To the Savior’s waiting arms. (LSB 826 v.1-2)**

Leader: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Rural & Small Town Mission (RSTM) recognizes that while the work to which God has called congregations is the same, the context in which that work is carried out can be very different—even in rural America.

Response: The number of worker-priests serving our rural and small town congregations is increasing and there is a need for them to have a time of respite and revitalization.

Leader: While there is no “one” program or resource that will provide guaranteed results, RSTM provides training and resources aimed at helping rural and small town congregations assess community needs and search for opportunities to engage their communities through acts of witness and mercy.

Response: We give thanks that LCMS Rural and Small Town Mission supports and encourages rural and small town congregations in engaging their communities and growing together in Christ through Word and Sacrament.

All: Gracious and Almighty Father, bless the mite offerings we bring before you this day. May prayers for the spreading of Your Word accompany every coin and bill dropped into our Mite Boxes. Thank You for providing us the opportunity to care for one another in this small way. We boldly pray in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.