



Leader: We pray in the Name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**All Sing or Say: God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.
Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.** (LSB 392 v1)

Leader: As recorded in Acts 2 on the day of Pentecost, the Lord worked through the apostles to ensure that the crowds, hearing the Good News of Christ Jesus in their own languages, would find forgiveness and salvation in Jesus. American Sign Language (ASL) is not simply the English language with hand motions, but it is a fully developed and complete language with a grammatical structure that is different than English. Holy Scripture has been translated into ASL for the deaf and hard-of-hearing to receive the Gospel. This Gospel Hands Project will directly affect many deaf children and their families as they hear God's Word in their own language.

**All Sing or Say: He sent forth Jesus, My dear Redeemer,
He sent forth Jesus, And set me free.
Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.** (LSB 392 v3)

Leader: Approximately 95 percent of deaf people have not heard the Gospel of Christ and it is estimated that only 2 percent attend churches in the United States. Helping the Lutheran Friends of the Deaf to partner with local congregation to provide Vacation Bible Schools for Children of the Deaf will help them to hear and learn God's Word.

**All Sing and Say: Now I will praise You, O Love Eternal:
Now I will praise You All my life long.
Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.** (LSB 392 v5)

All Pray Together: Dear Gracious and Heavenly Father, We pray that Your saving Gospel may be heard by *all* languages. We know You love us all dearly, and it is our hope that these mite offerings brought today might bring Your Scripture, through this Gospel Hands project, to those using ASL. Through these vacation Bible schools, may those who are deaf learn Your Word. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.