

Pastor's Bible Class

June 14, 2023

The Third Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 6)

827 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling



1 Hark, the voice of Je - sus call - ing, "Who will go and work to - day?
2 Some take up His task in morn - ing, To their Lord re - spond - ing soon;
3 For as rain and snow from heav - en Wa - ter seeds in dust - y soil,
4 Hear - ken to the Lord whose com - ing Marks the time when grace shall end,



Fields are white and har - vests wait - ing— Who will bear the sheaves a - way?"
Some are called in heat of mid - day, Oth - ers late in af - ter - noon;
Caus - ing them to bud and flow - er, Giv - ing bread to those who toil;
When with His an - gel - ic reap - ers He in glo - ry shall de - scend.



Loud and long the Mas - ter call - eth; Rich re - ward He of - fers thee.
E - ven as the sun is set - ting, Some are sent in - to the fields,
So the Lord sends forth His prom - ise, Words of life and joy and peace—
Soon the night, the fi - nal har - vest; Soon the time for work shall cease.



Who will an - swer, glad - ly say - ing, "Here am I, send me, send me"?
There to gath - er in the boun - ty That God's Word so rich - ly yields.
Nev - er void to Him re - turn - ing, Bear - ing fruit with great in - crease.
Then the souls His grace has gar - nered Shall en - joy His Sab - bath peace.

Read Exodus 19:2-8

1. Scan the action in the previous chapters. Where does this text fit into the larger story of God's chosen people?
2. To what event does God point before establishing the terms of the covenant in verses 5 and 6?

3. What does God promise in verses 5 and 6?
4. What does Israel promise in verse 8?
5. What is problematic about the commitment made by God's people?
6. Read our Epistle lesson from Romans 5:6-15. How does this speak to the problem of Israel's (and our) disobedience and God's action?

Read Matthew 9:35-10:8

7. What actions are described in the first verse of the text? What is the significance of these actions?
8. What did Jesus notice about the "crowds" and what was his response?
9. Reflect on the words of Jesus in verses 37 and 38. What are the implications of these words about the "harvest" and "laborers"? On whom is the harvest dependent?
10. To whom does Jesus send the Twelve? Why?
11. What message are they to proclaim?
12. The last verse of our text has a wonderful message for how we are to view the Kingdom work to which we have been called. What missional message does verse 8 communicate to us?

Devotional Thought (The Lutheran Study Bible)

"Jesus selects representatives to extend His gracious kingdom. They are named individually and given divine authority, demonstrating Jesus' personal care for each disciple. The compassionate authority of forgiveness is given to each of Christ's followers. We are sent with the message of God's love to a world of sinners" (TLSB, 1599).

Prayer

Thank You, Jesus, for making me one of Your followers. Help me to carry out Your mission in the world. Amen.