



Southwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Blessing and Sending for Mission:

This prayer may be offered when people are being sent forth from worship as a tangible expression of the baptismal call to share in Christ's mission to all the world. It may precede the blessing and the dismissal in a congregation's service.

The leader addresses the congregation:

Friends in Christ: Today we give thanks to God and seek God's blessing as _____ is sent to serve as a Voting Member from the Southwestern Minnesota Synod to the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix, July 28 – August 2.

S/he will be joining voting members from congregations across the ELCA, as they worship, learn, pray, discern, and act, gathering in the focus, "*For the Life of the World.*"

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.

You made the whole earth for your glory; all creation praises you.

We lift our voices to join the songs of heaven and earth
in thanksgiving for all the blessings you have given us.

Bless _____ as s/he goes out from here to serve as a voting member for the ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

Bless all who gather there. Prosper their discernment.

Renew in us as a church the commitment

to use our gifts in the service of others, and especially of those in need.

Let us be your hands to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless,

clothe the naked, comfort the weary and outcast,

welcome the stranger, care for creation,

and be loving neighbors to all people.

May the gifts they use and share be signs of your love to all people – for the Life of the World.

To you, O God, be glory and honor through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
in your church and in the world, now and forever.

Amen.