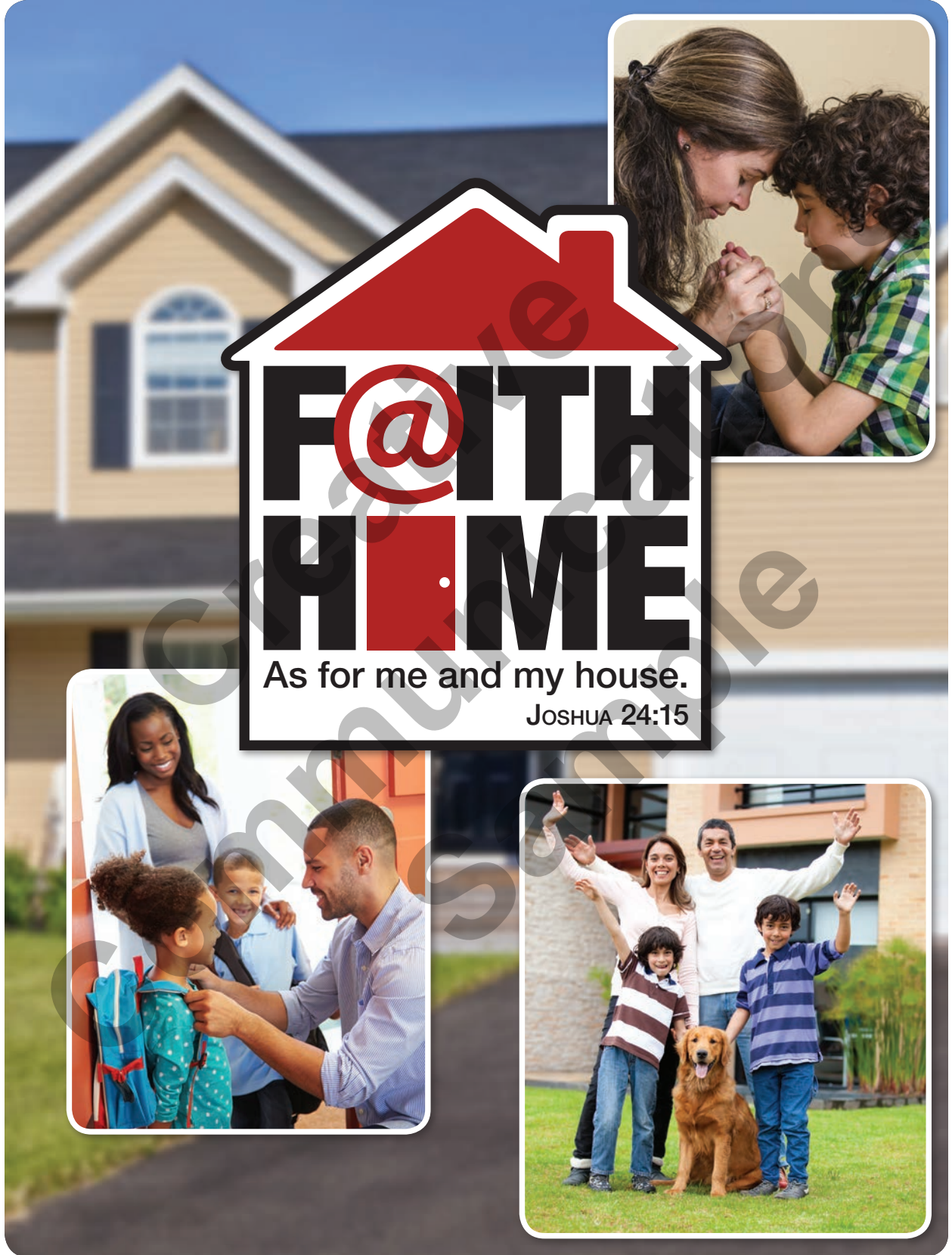


A Series of Services for Every Family



**F@ITH
HOME**
As for me and my house.
JOSHUA 24:15

Creative
Communications
Sample



A Series of Services for Every Family

Leader's Guide



A Series of Services for Every Family

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About This Series

Faith@Home is a four-week sermon series on CD-ROM that encourages Christians to express their faith not only in church and in the world, but especially in their home. The home is where growing in faith occurs outside of the one or two hours spent at church on a weekend. People are invited to live out their faith by themselves or with children, spouses and grandchildren. The series, therefore, is for singles, empty nesters, families with young children, families with teenagers and college students and married couples with no children. Faith@Home is for everyone!

The CD includes a .pdf of the entire series, text of the orders of service, prayers, sermons, children's sermons, and hymns in .rtf (rich text format) and PowerPoint documents of all four services with text (with a copyright release) for use on screens. Kits are not returnable.



A Series of Services for Every Family

Newsletter/Bulletin Notices

Service One Newsletter Notice

*Celebrate the role of the home as the primary agency of faith formation in a series of four worship services called **Faith@Home**. Each service in the four-part series focuses on different ways in which the home serves the family of faith. Service One in the series highlights the ways in which the home can serve as a seminary, providing spiritual training that no other institution can match. Through words of Scripture, an inspiring sermon and thematic hymns, this service reminds us that the home has the opportunity to make a deeper and longer-lasting spiritual impression than almost any other organization in the world.*

Service One Bulletin Notice

*Welcome to the first of four services in a series called **Faith@Home**. Today's service highlights the ways in which the home can serve as a seminary, providing spiritual training that no other institution can match. Through words of Scripture, an inspiring sermon and thematic hymns, this service will remind us that the home has the opportunity to make a deeper and longer-lasting spiritual impression than almost any other organization in the world.*



A Series of Services for Every Family

Newsletter/Bulletin Notices

Service Two Newsletter Notice

*Celebrate the role of the home as the primary agency of faith formation in the second in a series of four worship services called **Faith@Home**. Service Two in the series focuses on how the home can serve as a trauma center, providing emotional, physical and spiritual healing to all who enter. Through words of Scripture, an inspiring sermon and thematic hymns, this service reminds us that the home has the opportunity to bind up the brokenhearted, encourage the discouraged and build confidence in our Lord.*

Service Two Bulletin Notice

*Welcome to the second of four services in a series called **Faith@Home**. Today's service highlights the ways in which the home can serve as a trauma center, providing emotional, physical and spiritual healing to all who enter. Through words of Scripture, an inspiring sermon and thematic hymns, this service will remind us that the home has the opportunity to bind up the brokenhearted, encourage the discouraged and build confidence in our Lord.*



A Series of Services for Every Family

Newsletter/Bulletin Notices

Service Three Newsletter Notice

*Celebrate the role of the home as the primary agency of faith formation in the third in a series of four worship services called **Faith@Home**. Service Three in the series focuses on how the home can serve as a filling station, replenishing our spiritual “tanks” when we feel like we are running on empty and need a jump-start to get us going again on our journey of faith. Through words of Scripture, an inspiring sermon and thematic hymns, this service reminds us that the home has the opportunity to give to all who enter the sustaining love of Christ and his everlasting grace and mercy.*

Service Three Bulletin Notice

*Welcome to the third of four services in a series called **Faith@Home**. Today’s service highlights the ways in which the home can serve as a filling station, replenishing our spiritual “tanks” when we feel like we are running on empty and need a jump-start to get us going again on our journey of faith. Through words of Scripture, an inspiring sermon and thematic hymns, this service will remind us that the home has the opportunity to give to all who enter the sustaining love of Christ and his everlasting grace and mercy.*



A Series of Services for Every Family

Newsletter/Bulletin Notices

Service Four Newsletter Notice

*Celebrate the role of the home as the primary agency of faith formation in the fourth in a series of four worship services called **Faith@Home**. Service Four in the series focuses on how the home can serve as a safe place, sheltering us from the dangers and destruction out in the world that threaten to harm us. Through words of Scripture, an inspiring sermon and thematic hymns, this service reminds us that the home has the opportunity to supply the spiritual tools and resources necessary to defuse and even eliminate any threat against us.*

Service Four Bulletin Notice

*Welcome to the fourth of four services in a series called **Faith@Home**. Today's service highlights the ways in which the home can serve as a safe place, sheltering us from the dangers and destruction out in the world that threaten to harm us. Through words of Scripture, an inspiring sermon and thematic hymns, this service reminds us that the home has the opportunity to supply the spiritual tools and resources necessary to defuse and even eliminate any threat against us.*



A Series of Services for Every Family

Complete Script for Worship Leaders

- The **Invocation** is spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:
 - ☐ *In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit,*
 - ☑ **Amen.**
- The **Call to Worship**, from selected verses of Psalm 68, is spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:
 - ☐ *Sing to God, sing praises to his name.*
 - ☑ **He is a Father of the fatherless and Protector of widows, God is in his holy habitation.**
 - ☐ *God settles the solitary in families.*
 - ☑ **Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears our burdens; God is our salvation.**
 - ☐ *O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; sing praises to the Lord,*
 - ☑ **To him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.**

P *Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is in the skies.*

C **Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—he is the One who gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be our God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit!**

• The **Opening Hymn** is sung by the congregation to tune Hanover 10 10 11 11:

O worship the King, all glorious above,
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old;
Established it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

O measureless might! Ineffable love!
While angels delight to hymn thee above,
The humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

• The **Confession and Absolution** is spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

P *Father in heaven, more often than we care to admit, our homes are desolate places where we live only for ourselves.*

C Our homes can be anything but peaceful habitations, secure dwellings or quiet resting places.

P We fail to carry each other's burdens, supposing that our agenda is the most important.

C We think too highly of ourselves and too little of others.

P We have reaped what we have sown.

C Bitterness, resentment and regret fill our families.

P Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit upon our homes.

(Silence for personal confession and reflection)

P As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I announce that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C This forgiveness brings us peace and the result of this peace is quietness and trust forever.

P God says through the prophet Isaiah, "My people will abide in habitations of peace, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places forever."

C Amen.

• The **Responsive Psalm**, from Psalm 103, is spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

P Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

C Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,

P who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

C who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

P who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

C The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

P He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

C The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

P *He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.*

C **He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

P *For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;*

C **as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

P *As a father shows compassion to his children,*

C **so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.**

• The **Prayer of the Day** is spoken by the pastor:

P *Heavenly Father, as your family, we gather to receive anew the gift of your Holy Spirit. May you make our homes places of love, healing and abundant life so that the love of Christ, flowing like a river from your Word and Sacraments, establishes us in truth and grace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

• The **Children's Message** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:

(Needed: a small first aid kit or a box of band-aids, first aid cream and other first aid items)

P Today I brought along the first aid kit (first aid supplies) from my house. Most of us keep supplies like this in our homes. I have some band-aids here. What might happen at home? Why would you need a band-aid? *(Let children answer.)* You might fall and skin your knee. Maybe you or your mom or dad might accidentally cut a finger. What is this cream for? *(Let children answer.)* This first aid cream is a kind of medicine that keeps a cut or skinned knee from becoming infected. Sometimes it helps the hurt heal faster.

There are some kinds of hurt that a band-aid or first aid cream won't help. Sometimes we feel hurt and sad inside. Maybe a friend said unkind words or maybe we lost a game and we feel sad. When that happens, families can help each other with a different kind of first aid! First, we can listen *(cup hands around ears)*. Show me your listening ears! We can listen to each other and find out what hurts. We can accept the people in our family *(hold out arms in a big welcome gesture)*. Open your arms with me! We can accept each other and make each other feel welcome, even when we are sad and hurting. We can show that we care for each other. We can affirm each other *(wrap arms around yourself in a "hug")*. Show me your hugging arms! To affirm

the members of our family means to help them feel important and loved. All of these words are part of our family first aid kit (*repeat the motions as you say each word*): Listen, accept, affirm! Let's pray and ask Jesus to help us use our family first aid words.

Jesus, you love us and you died on the cross to take our sins away. Help us to share your love in our families by listening to each other, by accepting each other and by affirming each other. Amen.

- The **Hymn of Praise** is sung by the congregation to tune *In Babilone 87 87 D*:

Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory, for your own will ever plead;
Fill us with your love and pity, heal our wrongs and help our need.

As you, Lord, have lived for others, so may we for others live.
Freely have your gifts been granted; freely may your servants give.
Yours the gold and yours the silver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of your bounty held in solemn trust will be.

- The **Old Testament Reading**, *Isaiah 32:14-18*, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

Ⓟ For the palace is forsaken, the populous city deserted; the hill and the watchtower will become dens forever, a joy of wild donkeys, a pasture of flocks; until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest. Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

- The **Epistle Reading**, *Galatians 6:1-10*, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

Ⓟ Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. For each will have to bear his own load. Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will

from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

- The **Gospel Reading**, *Matthew 7:24-29*, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

¶ “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.” And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

- The **Sermon Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune *Finlandia 10 10 10 10 10 10*:

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on thy side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to thy God to order and provide;
In every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; thy best, thy heavenly, Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul; thy God doth undertake
To guide the future as he has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence, let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

- The **Sermon** is delivered by the pastor:

¶ Let me describe two different kinds of dentists.

Dentist A has hairy knuckles. He wears dentures and asks you countless questions while your mouth is propped open and you can't talk. His piped-in music is comprised of loud rap songs. This dentist uses lead for fillings and on the side he sells used cars. When he sends you a Christmas card, he charges you for it.

Dentist B has never chewed gum, or tobacco, for that matter. He uses a laser instead of a drill, pipes in soft rock and has great-tasting mouthwash. This dentist joyfully takes your dental insurance, gives you first preference in his schedule and always promises to put you to sleep for root canals.

None of us wants Dentist A with the hairy knuckles. We all want Dentist B with the great mouthwash. Right?

What is true about our desire for good dentists is also true about our desire for good doctors, good nurses and good hospitals.

But where do we go when we have a non-medical problem? Where do we go when our self-esteem takes a hit? When our confidence collapses? When our hearts break? Wouldn't it be great if we could go to a 24-hour trauma center? That doesn't have a wait time? That doesn't charge us for its services? That is friendly and outgoing and full of compassion?

God's design is that homes function as trauma centers. That's what Isaiah says.

"For the palace is forsaken, the populous city deserted; the hill and the watchtower will become dens forever, a joy of wild donkeys, a pasture of flocks; until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest. Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places" (Isaiah 32:14-18).

The Holy Spirit is poured out to create homes where every family member receives prompt, loving care when they experience life's bumps and bruises.

But what happens when the family doesn't function this way? When it doesn't have a competent staff? When family members are more like Dentist A with his rap music and used cars? What happens when the Holy Spirit is not welcome? What does it look like when a family doesn't function like a trauma center?

I don't think you want to be reminded of the answer because many of us have found out, firsthand, what family members do when the home isn't a place of peace, a place of healing and hope.

Some hang out at the local bar to drink their troubles away. Others go on achievement binges. Some get consumed in recreational sports. It is tempting to establish illicit relationships with people outside the family who offer a listening ear, a loving touch ... or more.

When children find out that the trauma center is closed, they turn to their friends who often offer bad advice, bad ideas, bad answers and bad diversions. Other children bury their hurts deep down until their insides get infected and later on, in their twenties and thirties, this terrible emotional sickness rears its ugly head; and then their entire lives are up for grabs.

An effective trauma center has a qualified staff who listen, accept and affirm.

Listen

“Let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger” (James 1:19).

Time Magazine published a remarkable article some time ago that was simply signed “A College Student.” It reads in part, “Thank you, sirs, for your excellent essay titled ‘On Being a Good Parent.’ I wish every parent and future parent would read it and take it to heart. I love my parents and they love me, but I could never tell them anything. They were always too busy, too tired, too condescending. By the time I became a teenager all honest communication ceased. I’m 18 years old, drink whenever I get the chance, smoke pot and long ago lost my virginity. My heart is broken. But who can I talk to? Not my parents. So I plead with all of the parents out there to listen, listen, listen. Please, I know the consequences because I’m in hell.”

“The purposes of a person’s heart are deep waters, but a person of understanding draws them out” (Proverbs 20:5).

“How was your day?”

“Fine.”

“Tell me more.”

A little girl recently asked her mom, “Mommy, if the stork brings babies and Santa Claus brings presents and the Lord gives us daily bread and Uncle Sam gives Social Security, then why do we keep Daddy around?”

Even though mothers are better listeners, in general, than fathers, dads need to stay around to listen!

Accept

“Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you” (Romans 15:7).

I know some people who rejoice over their childhood because their parents accepted them, valued them and treasured them. I also know others who recall their childhood

Tune Wo Gott Zum Haus LM

The image displays a musical score for the hymn 'Wo Gott Zum Haus'. The score is arranged in two systems, each containing a treble and bass staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats), and the time signature is common time (C). The music is written in a simple, homophonic style. The first system consists of two staves. The second system also consists of two staves. The third system consists of two staves. The fourth system consists of two staves. The fifth system consists of two staves. The sixth system consists of two staves. The seventh system consists of two staves. The eighth system consists of two staves. The ninth system consists of two staves. The tenth system consists of two staves. The eleventh system consists of two staves. The twelfth system consists of two staves. The thirteenth system consists of two staves. The fourteenth system consists of two staves. The fifteenth system consists of two staves. The sixteenth system consists of two staves. The seventeenth system consists of two staves. The eighteenth system consists of two staves. The nineteenth system consists of two staves. The twentieth system consists of two staves. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

- The **Closing Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune *Wo Gott Zum Haus LM*:

Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall,
Where Jesus Christ is all in all!
Yea, if he were not dwelling there,
How dark and poor and void it were!

Oh, blest that house where faith ye find
And all within have set their mind
To trust their God and serve him still
And do in all his holy will!

Oh, blest the parents who give heed
Unto their children's foremost need
And weary not of care or cost!
May none to them and heaven be lost!

Blest such a house, it prospers well,
In peace and joy the parents dwell,
And in their children's lot is shown
How richly God can bless his own.

Then here will I and mine today
A solemn covenant make and say:
Though all the world forsake thy Word,
I and my house will serve the Lord!