

# Benediction Prayer

by Liz Mosbo VerHage

As we leave this place to go out into the world, may we remember:

- to wait for **God** to do the leading, equipping, and calling of each of us to a lifestyle shaped by hospitality, compassion, mercy, and justice;
- to practice **hospitality** among our own church family, and within our weariness or awkwardness to reach out to the 'other';
- to show **compassion** to each other, and within broken and hurting families to be especially gracious and help carry each other's burdens;
- to show works of **mercy** to our community, through our presence and our prayers, through a softening of our hearts and active ministries;
- to pray for **justice** in the world, remembering and grieving along with those suffering from violence, hunger, illness, poverty, racism, and despair around the globe;
- to respond to God's **promises** in gratitude, reflection, and action, so that when we are called, when we are gifted, we may join in praising God's work and walking along the way with God's Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.