

## Seeds of Mercy and Justice

### Call to Worship

One: Church, let's bring forth the kingdom of God!

**All: But some of us have little faith. We're tired. Illness, violence, and chaos surround us, and we wonder where God is.**

One: Jesus promises that a little faith goes a long way. Lift up your heads. Plant those seeds of mercy and justice. Trust God to water and multiply.

**Youth: Church, let's bring forth the kingdom of God! Let's volunteer at a workcamp to help others.**

**Women: Church, let's bring forth the kingdom of God! Let's gather with friends and visit the lonely.**

**Men: Church, let's bring forth the kingdom of God. Let's deliver supplies to folks who need them.**

One: God will ensure these seeds sprout and grow.

**All O Lord, we praise you and trust you. You teach us that our faith in you will drive us to action. As we worship today, keep us open to hear and accept your challenge. Forgive us when we are complacent. Help us repent when we turn our backs. And show us where to plant seeds of mercy and justice to further your kingdom. In Jesus' name, let us pray and then act.**

### Hymn

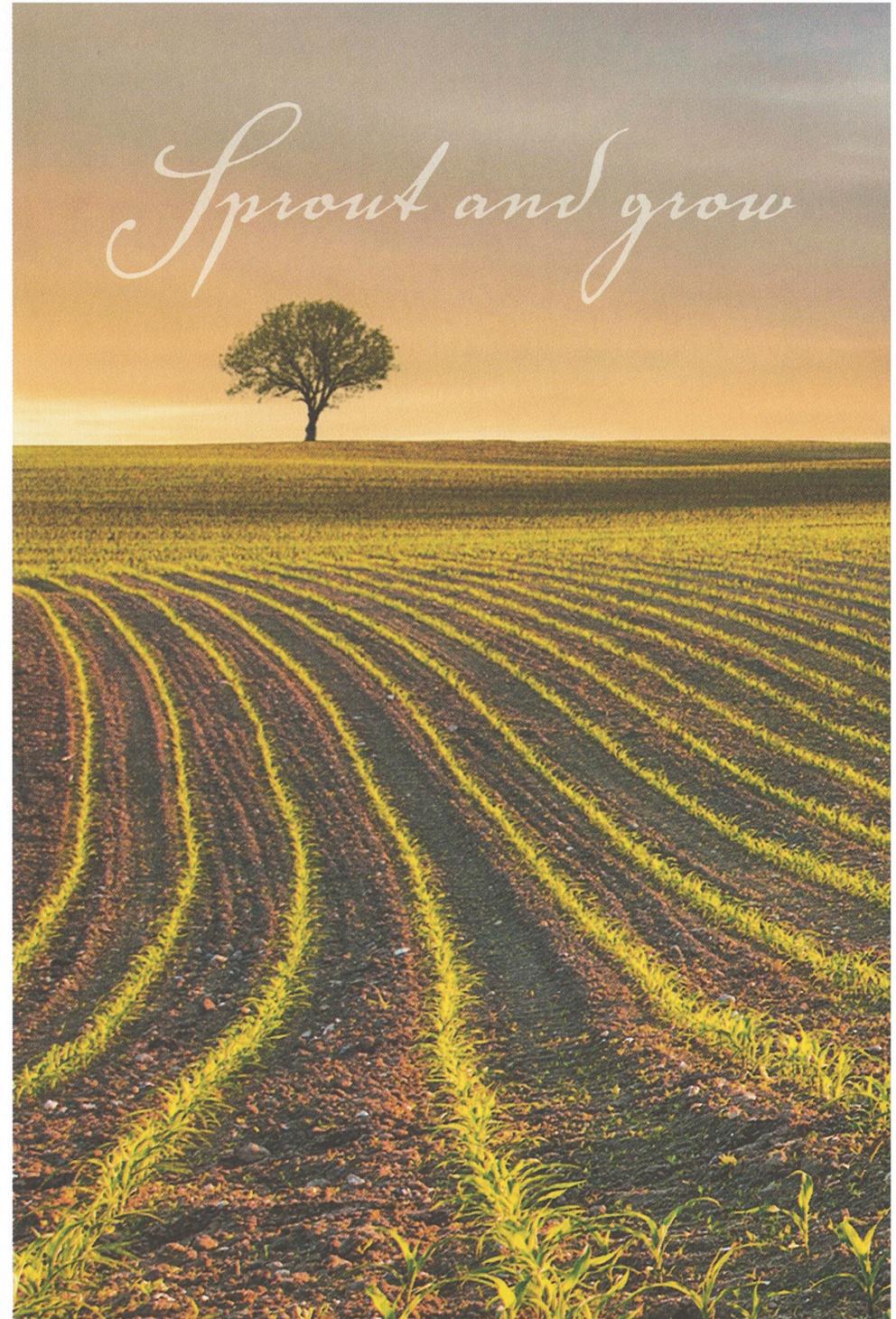
#### You are salt for the earth

No. 226, *Hymnal: A Worship Book*

—Carol FH Elmore  
Roanoke, Virginia

**Text for today:** "[Jesus] also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would *sprout and grow*, he does not know how'" (Mark 4:26-27, NRSV). **Bible readings for today:** Ezekiel 17:22-24; Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17; Mark 4:26-34 (27).

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**CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
Hagerstown, Maryland**

**MORNING WORSHIP**

**10:00 AM**

June 13, 2021

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** "New Faith, New Life" (Ritter)

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Diana Shepherd, Worship Leader

One: Come and live in God's new creation.

**All: Everything old has passed away.**

One: Come and rejoice in the presence of God.

**All: The realm of God grows like grain from the earth.**

One: Come and see with eyes of faith.

**All: See, everything has become new!**

**\*HYMN #648** "Morning has broken"

[Verse 1]

*Morning has broken, like the first morning; blackbird has spoken,  
like the first bird. Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,  
praise for them springing fresh from the world.*

[Verse 2]

*Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from heaven like the first dewfall,  
on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.*

[Verse 3]

*Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning born of the one light,  
Eden saw play. Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,  
God's recreation of the new day.*

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

Creator and Ruler of the Earth, we lift up our voices, our eyes, our hearts, our lives to You in praise. Make us Your alle-

luia people. Uphold the weary, for whom praise may be very difficult. Humble the strong, for whom "alleluia" may be too easy.

Creator and Ruler of the Earth, continue to form us into Your new creation, that we might welcome You to more fully become the ruler of our hearts and minds.

Through Him who came as a servant, and who now reigns over all creation, Jesus, our Christ. Amen.

**A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN**

**SERVICE OF GIVING**

**Call to Giving**

God remembers our offerings of genuine thankfulness and regards with favor the sacrifices we make to extend God's realm. We give, not out of compulsion, but with joy. Whatever our age or circumstances, we have something to give. Let us give thanks as we present our tithes and offerings.

You may place your offering in the plate at the front of the church during the offertory, if you have not done so yet. Or if you are watching the service online, we virtually pass the offering plate to you. You can prepare your offering to be mailed to or dropped off at the church this week; or you can use Paypal on the Hagerstowncob webpage.

**Offertory** "My Faith Has Found a Resting Place" (Southbridge)

**\*Doxology #119** "Praise God from whom"

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Let us pray. All that we have is yours, O God. What we present for the church's use is no sacrifice. We are privileged to share good news in word and deed. May our common ministry be extended by the time and talents and treasures we invest. We would no longer live just for ourselves but for the realization of your reign among us. Let all things become new as we give our best. Amen.

(continued)

