

# Devotions for a Congregational Annual Meeting

## OPENING OF A MEETING

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### PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, draw us together as your disciples as we discern the mission you call us to as a congregation and as disciples. Help us celebrate and rejoice in the ministry we share. Guide us to be mindful of the needs of others, to be good stewards of all you have given us, and to live out your call to be a church *In Mission for Others*. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### READING

Lamentations 3:21–24

### HYMN

*Blessed Assurance (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, #638)*

**LEADER:** We are called to be spirited disciples, sharing our faith through our everyday actions. Let us be signs of hope to those around us.

**ALL:** This we call to mind, and therefore we have hope.

**LEADER:** Open our hearts with compassion so that we are able to look and work beyond our own walls, using our gifts to create a community of hope.

**ALL:** This we call to mind, and therefore we have hope.

**LEADER:** Rejoicing in our faith community and living as good stewards of the resources you have given, let us nurture relationships and work alongside partners, so that the sharing of our gifts will proclaim your grace and love.

**ALL:** This we call to mind, and therefore we have hope.

**LEADER:** Enable us to seek new friendships and broaden our horizons; all are welcome at our table.

**ALL:** This we call to mind, and therefore we have hope.

Let our ministry be a blessing to many, let us be *In Mission for Others*.

## CLOSING OF A MEETING

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**LEADER:** The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end.

**ALL:** May we bear the light of Christ's Good News; bringing hope, sharing your faithfulness, creating peace in your name.

### HYMN

*Shine, Jesus, Shine (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, #671)*

**LEADER:** Go in peace, filled with the Holy Spirit to be signs of hope to one another and empowered to be *In Mission for Others*.

**ALL:** Thanks be to God.

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