



# Accessibility Sunday

## October 11, 2009



Suggestions from the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod's A (Accessibility Ministry) Team for observing October 11, 2009, or another Sunday as **Accessibility Sunday**.

### In the Prayer of the Church

Loving God, you have opened the kingdom to all who follow you. Help us to break down the barriers that prevent people with mental, physical, and sensory challenges from entering into our fellowship with you. We all need love and understanding. Everyone has spiritual gifts to share. Help us embrace, support, and advocate for people with disabilities that they may be full partners in your kingdom now.

### From the day's readings

**Amos 5:12** You transgress and your sin is great if you "push the needy in the gate."

**Hebrews 4:15** Jesus, tested as we are, sympathizes with our weaknesses

**Mark 10:17-31** In the story of the rich young ruler, Jesus tells him to go and sell what he owns, giving the money to the poor. Our fear and misunderstanding can be barriers that exclude people with disabilities from the Kingdom.



### In worship leadership

Ask persons with mental, physical, or sensory challenges to be greeters, ushers, lectors, prayer assistants reading the "bids" (*Lord, in your mercy...*), and presenters of the bread and wine.

### In the hymns

#### Evangelical Lutheran Worship

#423 Shall We Gather at the River

#533 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

#592 Just As I Am

#610 O Christ the Healer, We Have Come

#650 In Christ There Is No East or West

#652 Built on a Rock

#674 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

#835 All Creatures, Worship God Most High

Also #s 359, 526, 532, 576, 654, 656, 684

### By making a special effort with home-bound members

Arrange to assist home-bound members and members residing in assisted living and health care facilities to attend the worship service.

Invite the families of these members to help and be with them for the service. Invite them to stay after the service for a luncheon.

### Through community outreach

Ask a person from a social service agency to bring the day's message or to present a "temple talk."

Invite people from community group homes to attend the service. Offer volunteers to bring them to the worship service and help them participate in it.

