Christ, You Offer Us Your Welcome. tune: BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7 D

Christ, you offer us your welcome; it's a precious gift you give!
You bring reconciliation and you show us how to live.
You call poor ones from their sadness, you call rich ones from their pride.
You call people who are outcast, telling all to "Come inside!"

You have given us a mission — to invite our neighbors in —
and your call to love and listen is a place we can begin.
We need more than open houses; we need, first, to give our hearts.
By your Spirit, make us servants; that's the way your welcome starts.

May we set a welcome table, may we find a common ground
where no one will feel they're labeled, where acceptance can be found.
We don't need to entertain there, or to do things that impress —
just to hear folks' joy and pain there, and to love so all are blest.

Christ, your call to offer welcome is an urgent, mighty call;
you have given us a vision of your Way that welcomes all.
May we seek to meet our neighbors in their vast diversity.
As your loved and welcomed people, may we build community.

“Be Doers of the Word of God” tune ELLACOMBE

Be doers of the word of God, not simply those who hear.
Be ones who look into God’s word, obey, and persevere.
Be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger, too.
Put wrath aside; instead, be meek and let God work in you.

Religion that is undefiled, religion that is pure
will reach to help the orphaned child and welcome all the poor.
If people come here poorly dressed, to judge them is a sin.
The rich aren’t better than the rest; God welcomes poor ones in.

O Christ, you save us by God’s grace from having to obey.
Then freed to love, we can embrace a life that seeks your way.
May we be doers of the word; may faith shine through our deeds;
and as we seek to trust in God, may ethics follow creeds.

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