

EVENING LATINO PRAYER SERVICE

Florida-Bahamas Synod Conference on Ministry 2025

September 30, 2025

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Latino Music

Opening Prayer

God of power and peace, we come before you with heavy hearts. Our world is shaken by conflict, suffering is everywhere.

Tonight, we pray for our Latino communities in our synod facing fear, uncertainty and despair. Help us to pursue righteousness and peace, encouraging one another.

Turn our hearts to love our neighbor, celebrating cultural differences, and seeking common ground in our communities of faith. Grant us the courage to lay down the burdens of fear and worry, pursuing your peace.

Make us instruments of your will.

Amen.

When We Are Living Pues si vivimos



- 2 En la tristezayen el dolor, en la belleza y en el amor, sea que suframos o que gocemos, somos del Señor, somos del Señor.
- 3 En este mundo por doquier habrá gente que lloray sin consolar. Sea queayudemos oalimentemos, somos del Señor, somos del Señor.

Text: st. 1, based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, b. 1942

st. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla, b. 1931; tr. George Lockwood, b. 1946

Music: SOMOS DEL SEÑOR, Spanish traditional

Spanish text, sts. 2-3 © 1983 Abingdon Press and tr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company

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September 30, 2025

Reflection on Latin American Culture

THEOLOGY

"Latin American Lutheranism has found in the theology of liberation not a departure from the Gospel, but a faithful expression of it amid the cries of the poor and the oppressed." ~ Walter Altmann, Brazilian Lutheran theologian

CULTURE & IDENTITY

- "Latino culture is a tapestry woven from love, family, and tradition."
- "Being Latino means carrying generations of strength in your smile."
- "We are not a monolith—we are a symphony of voices and colors."
- "Nuestra cultura es nuestra fuerza." (Our culture is our strength.)

JOY & CELEBRATION

- "Latino culture dances even in the face of struggle."
- "We celebrate life with sabor, ritmo, y corazón."
- "In our culture, every gathering is a celebration of life."

HERITAGE & ROOTS

- "We are our ancestors' wildest dreams." ~ Darius Simpson
- "Rooted in the past, rising toward the future."
- "La herencia no se olvida, se vive." (Heritage isn't forgotten, it's lived.)

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Reflection on Latin American Culture

EMPOWERMENT & SOCIAL JUSTICE

- "Sí se puede." (Yes, it can be done.) ~ César Chávez
- "Every moment is an organizing opportunity." ~ Dolores Huerta
- "Peace is not only the absence of war, it is the presence of justice." ~
 Rigoberta Menchú (Guatemalan Nobel Peace Prize winner)

MUSIC & EXPRESSION

- "Always believe that the impossible is possible." ~ Selena Quintanilla
- "The more difficult the journey, the more glorious the victory." ~
 Gloria Estefan
- "Your mind is a magnet—you don't attract what you need or what you want; you attract who you are." ~ Carlos Santana

ART & LITERATURE

- "What matters in life is not what happens to you, but what you remember and how you remember it." ~ Gabriel García Márquez (Colombian Nobel Laureate)
- We all have an unsuspected reserve of strength inside that emerges when life puts us to the test." ~ Isabel Allende (Chilean author)
- "I am life, strength, woman." ~ Julia de Burgos (Puerto Rican poet)

We Are All One in Christ

Somos uno en Cristo



Text: Anonymous; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923

Music: SOMOS UNO, anonymous English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

September 30, 2025

Biblical Reflections

- Latino culture is diverse and includes many traditions, values, and ways
 of expressing both personally and in community. For example, family is
 central to Latino culture, with close relationships and frequent
 gatherings. Family members celebrate milestones like birthdays,
 weddings, and religious ceremonies together.
- Food is a way to connect with family and share traditions. Meals are a time to share stories, pass on traditions, and strengthen familial ties.
 Traditional dishes vary by region and often involve family recipes and techniques.
- Religion plays a significant role in Latino culture, and many holidays and traditions are influenced by it. Music is a way to express cultural identity. Caribbean rhythms are popular, and each area has its own local dances. Sports are a way to express cultural identity, and soccer is especially popular.
- Traditional Latino values include respect, religion, relationships, and traditional gender roles, however lately it is slowly beginning to open to inclusivity to members of the LGBTQ community. Latino culture is diverse, and the identities of Latino persons are shaped by many factors, including geography, heritage, race, spirituality and gender.

Passing of the Peace

The Peace of the Lord

La paz del Señor



your - selves

now

to

- 2 La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor, la paz del Resucitado: se hace presente ahora y aquí apréstate a recibirla; se hace presente ahora y aguí apréstate a recibirla.
- 3 La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor, la paz del Resucitado: no puede vivir encerrada en sí, apréstate a compartirla; no puede vivir encerrada en sí, apréstate_a compartirla.

share it.

SO

live,

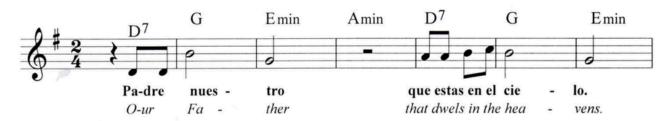
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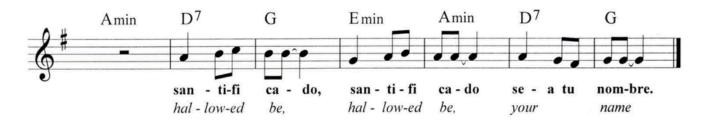
September 30, 2025

Intercessory Prayers

Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo

Texto y música: Carlos Rosas Traduccion inglés: Victor E. Jortack









- 1. tad en el cie-lo y en la tie-rra ha re -mos tu san ta vo-lun tad.

 done in the hea-ven and on earth let your ho-ly will be done
- 2. di-a. Y per do-na nues-tras deu-das a sí co-mo no so -tros per-do-na-mos.

 and for give us our debts the way that we for give our deb tors.
- 3. mal. No nos de-jes ca-er en ten ta cion; li bra -nos del mal.
 one. In temp-ta-tion don't let us fall; from e-vil keep us, Lord.

September 30, 2025

Closing Benediction

