

# Benediction

# “GROWS” Out of Anthem

Dorothy Christopherson’s anthem “Lord, Bless My Growing” (CGA-529), included in this month’s LETTERS, was written last spring for a Choristers Guild children’s choir festival in South Dakota. The composer was also the conductor of the festival and asked Helen Stensrud, who wrote the text, to write a prayer for the service, with which a small portion of the anthem might be used in response.

Handbells were used to accompany the responses. The prayer that Helen Stensrud wrote for the festival is below, but Dorothy Christopherson suggested that local churches should also consider writing their own prayers to use with these responses.

May the Lord bless our growing in  
Advent hope and Christmas love as  
we remember God’s promises made  
and promises kept in Jesus Christ.

LORD, BLESS MY GROWING . . .

May the Lord bless our growing in  
Epiphany light and Lenten faith as  
we share the forgiveness of the one  
who dies for us.

LORD, BLESS MY GROWING . . .

May the Lord bless our growing in  
Easter joy and Pentecost strength as  
we look forward in lives made new  
and spirits made strong by God’s  
love in all our seasons.

In the name of the Father, and of the  
Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

LORD, BLESS MY GROWING,  
BLESS MY GROWING YEARS.

## Lord, Bless My Growing

(Benediction)

Helen Stensrud

Dorothy Christopherson

*Bells Used*



Voices

Lord, bless my grow - ing.

Handbells

LV

Lord, bless my grow - ing.

LV

Lord, bless my grow - ing, Blessmy

LV

grow - ing years.

LV