

WORSHIP

Salutation

It is simply a greeting. “The Lord be with you” – “And also with you.” It as if the pastor is saying to us, “God bless you,” and we reply “God bless you too.” This sums up the relationship in Christ Jesus that the pastor and people have. The heart of the Gospel is that Jesus is Immanuel, God with us.

The words may seem stiff in your ears, but the concept is still common in the Mideast’s use of Shalom/Salaam (peace – with “of the Lord be with you” understood. The greeting goes back to Bible times.

The greeting reminds us that we are family and that we pray together – in Jesus’ name.

Bible Reference: Ruth 2:4

Sources:

Meaningful Worship
Our Lutheran Way of Worship