

-a congregation of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

# CELEBRATING 60 YRS OF SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE

"Peace Conway is a <u>loving</u> Christian family, faithfully <u>serving</u> all people by <u>sharing</u> the good news of Jesus and <u>caring</u> for people in need."

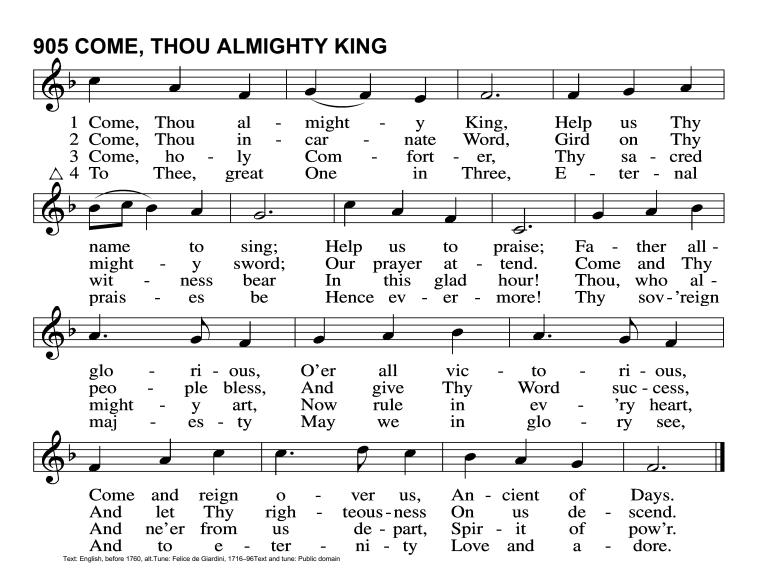
Last Sunday of the Church Year November 23, 2025

## **Last Sunday of the Church Year**

### AS WE GATHER - THE KING AND HIS KINGDOM

The Church Year ends as it began, with Christ at the center. From manger to cross to empty tomb, Jesus reigns as King of kings and Lord of lords. Today, as we stand on the edge of eternity, the readings remind us that His kingdom is not of this world, yet it changes everything in this world. We see the contrast between those who scoffed at Jesus on the cross and the one who believed and was promised paradise. As His redeemed people, we live in that same promise: citizens of a kingdom that cannot be shaken. The final word of the Church Year is not about endings, but beginnings: "Today you will be with Me in paradise."

#### + PREPARATION +



### **INVOCATION**

- P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### **OPENING SENTENCES**

Psalm 118:24; Psalm 22:27; Isaiah 43:1

- **P** This is the day that the LORD has made;
- let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- P All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
- and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.
- P Now thus says the LORD, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
- **■** I have called you by name, you are Mine."

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Colossians 1:13-14

- **P** The Lord has delivered us from the domain of darkness
- and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
- P Almighty God and King,
- we confess that we have broken trust with You. We have doubted Your goodness, neglected Your ways, and sought to satisfy our sinful nature. We do not think, speak, or act like Your treasured possession. We bring before You our faults and failures, honestly and humbly recognizing that we deserve to be cast out of Your kingdom. Have mercy, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Spare us from Your wrath, deliver us from death and darkness, and cleanse us from sin, that we serve You in righteousness, innocence, and blessedness now and always. Amen.
- P On His cross, Jesus Christ, your Savior, was crowned with shame and given unto death for You. His blood pays the price Your sins deserve. Now crowned with glory, the risen and reigning Christ lives to declare sins forgiven. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.



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#### **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

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154

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L Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

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Lord,



### **SALUTATION**

- **L** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

#### **PSALM**

Psalm 46; antiphon: v. 7

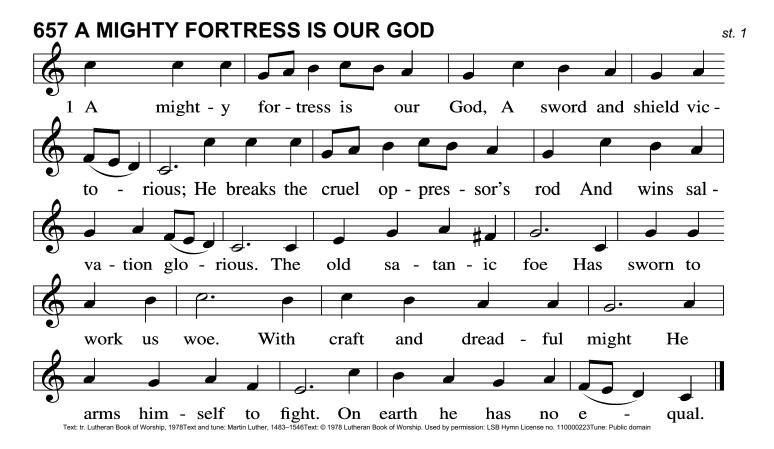
<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. <sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, <sup>3</sup>though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

<sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. <sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. <sup>6</sup>The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. <sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. <sup>8</sup>Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth. <sup>9</sup>He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire. <sup>10</sup>"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" <sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our fortress.

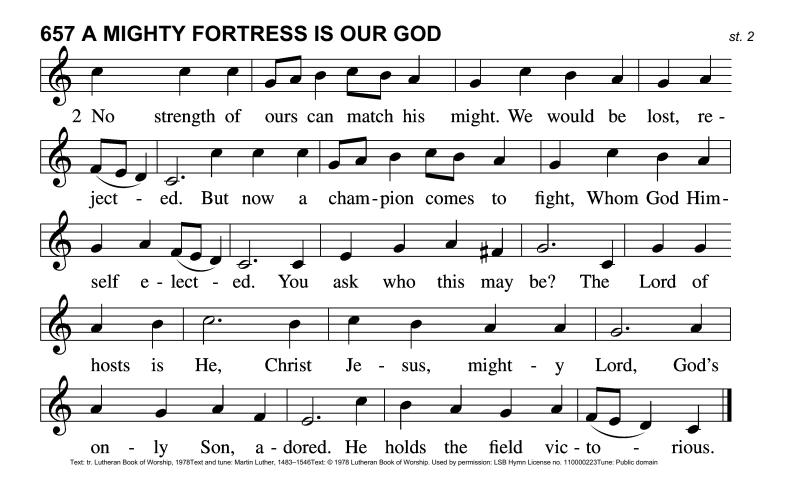
- L O Lord, have mercy on us.
- Thanks be to God.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, You reign among us by the preaching of Your cross. Forgive Your people their offenses that we, being governed by Your bountiful goodness, may enter at last into Your eternal paradise; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.



### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**



### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Malachi 3:13-18

<sup>13</sup>"Your words have been hard against me, says the LORD. But you say, 'How have we spoken against you?' <sup>14</sup>You have said, 'It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the LORD of hosts? <sup>15</sup>And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.'"

<sup>16</sup>Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name. <sup>17</sup>"They shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. <sup>18</sup>Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him."

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Colossians 1:13–20

<sup>13</sup>He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. <sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

<sup>16</sup>For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities; all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

### 761 ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME



- 1 Rock of A ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my self in Thee;
- 2 Not the la-bors of my hands Can ful-fill Thy Law's de-mands;
- 3 Noth-ing in my hand I bring; Sim ply to Thy cross I cling.
- 4 While I draw this fleet ing breath, When mine eye lids close in death,



Let the wa-ter and the blood, From Thy riv-en side which flowed, Could my zeal no res-pite know, Could my tears for-ev-er flow, Na-ked, come to Thee for dress; Help-less, look to Thee for grace; When I soar to worlds un-known, See Thee on Thy judg-ment throne,



the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from Be guilt and pow'r. its must save, and Thou a - lone. A11 for sin could not a - tone; Thou Wash Ι Foul, Ι to the foun-tain fly; me, Say - ior, or die. Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide mv - self Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–78Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872Text and tune: Public domai

VERSE Luke 23:43

- P Alleluia, alleluia!
- Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.
- P Alleluia, alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 23:27–43

- **P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.
- G Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>27</sup>And there followed [Jesus] a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. <sup>28</sup>But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. <sup>29</sup>For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' <sup>30</sup>Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' <sup>31</sup>For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

<sup>32</sup>Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. <sup>33</sup>And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup>And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. <sup>35</sup>And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup>and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup>And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup>And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup>And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

### **MUSICAL MEDITATION**

### **SERMON**

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Nicene Creed

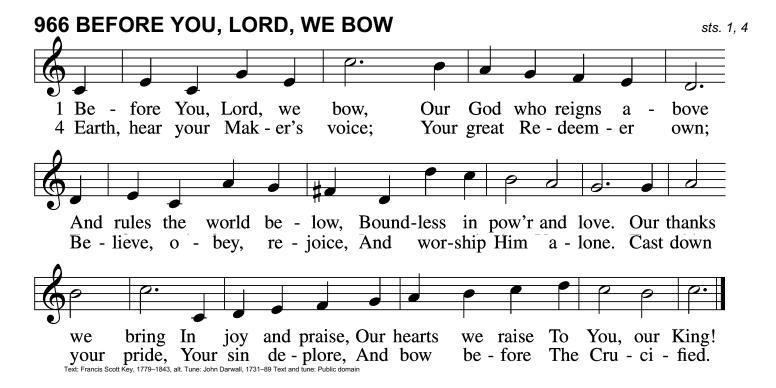
I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

#### OFFERING AND VIDEO

(At this time, please fill out the attendance sheet in the colored bulletin and place in the offering plate. Also at this time, on the back of the attendance slip, please refresh your thoughts or read what we believe, as you prepare to come to receive the Lord's Body & Blood or as you come forward to receive a blessing.)



### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- L As those delivered to the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us confidently approach His throne of grace with our prayers and intercessions, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- L King of all creation, the whole earth is full of Your glory, and we are awed by Your creative majesty. Deepen our appreciation of Your care and keeping and dedicate us as faithful stewards of Your earthly gifts. For the sake of Your kingdom,
- C love us and lead us, O King.

- L King of love, You devote Yourself to Your people and never fail to keep Your commitments. Bless those who have committed themselves to one another in Christian marriage that their relationships might be reflections of Your heart. For the sake of Your kingdom,
- c touch us and teach us, O King.
- L King of kindness and grace, who attends to our hurts of body and soul, show compassion to all who are facing sorrow, sickness, or adversity, embracing them in Your tender care. For the sake of Your kingdom,
- C hear us and heal us, O King.
- Li King of Your church, You uphold all those who serve in Your name. Grant holy satisfaction to those who volunteer their time and offer their gifts to our congregation. Raise up others to serve and prevent us from stealing Your glory for ourselves. For the sake of Your kingdom,
- prepare us and protect us, O King.
- Li King of mission and mercy, You have planted Your Word among us and called us to share Your kingdom with all nations. Bless the ongoing ministry of Peace Lutheran Church as we continue to climb toward the summit You have set before us. Strengthen our *Climbing to the Summit* campaign and grant success to our efforts in the sale of our current property, the work of our Building and Early Childhood Education Committees, and the development of our new campus. May all that we do bring glory to You and draw others into Your kingdom.
- **G** Guide us and bless us, O King.
- L King of justice, You rule Your world with wisdom and faithfulness. Give those chosen as our earthly authorities patience, perspective, and a heart that pursues Your will, that we might be led into peaceable prosperity. For the sake of Your kingdom,
- defend us and direct us, O King.
- Li King eternal, as we close another Church Year and look toward Advent, keep us steadfast in faith, hopeful in Your return, and diligent in the work You have given us to do. Make us ready to welcome You, not with fear, but with joy and expectation.
- **G** Keep us faithful and watchful, O King.
- Li King of all kings, You have authority over all things. Allow us to see Your authority as a blessing, that we might recognize Your preeminence in our lives and rest in Your merciful rule, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

### 767 JESUS, REMEMBER ME



+ SACRAMENT +

#### **PREFACE**

**P** The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

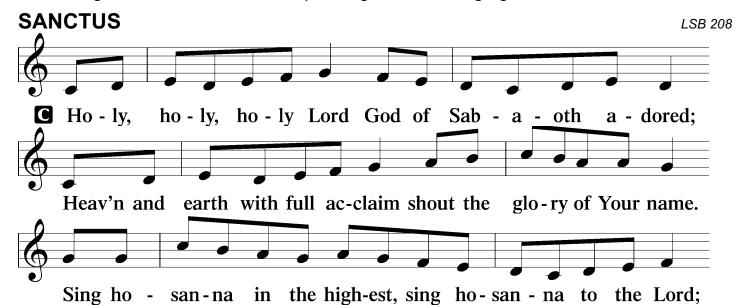
**W**e lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### PROPER PREFACE

It is truly worthy, proper, and beneficial that we would give thanks to You in every time and place, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom all things were created, and to whom all powers and dominion owe honor and obedience. Yet, it was Christ who humbled Himself, suffered in our place, and by the blood of His cross, made peace between God and humanity. He rose as the firstborn from the dead and was crowned with eternal glory. We eagerly anticipate the consummation of His redeeming work, as He gathers believers of every tribe and tongue, together with angels and archangels, to bless and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:





#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Luke 23:43

P Blessed are You, Lord God, heavenly King, for the grace You have shown to all creation in sending a Savior, Your Son, Jesus Christ. To the condemned, He speaks: "Today you will be with Me in Paradise," and we truly taste His Word fulfilled among us as He gathers us around His life-giving body and blood. Help us to partake of this heavenly feast in sincerity and truth, looking forward to the royal banquet that awaits as the faithful are gathered by Christ, the Lamb, in the midst of the throne, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

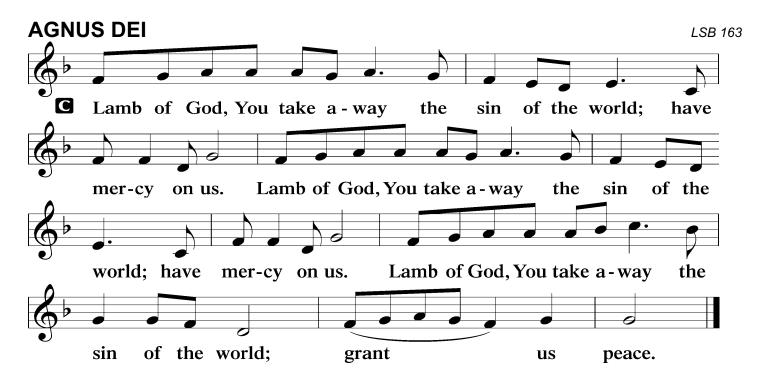
- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily read; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### **PAX DOMINI**

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



#### + DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

### **COME TO THE TABLE** (video)

We all start on the outside, The outside looking in, This is where grace begins We were hungry we were thirsty, With nothing left to give Oh the shape that we were in

And just when all hope seemed lost, Love opened the door for us

He said come to the table Come join the sinners who have been redeemed Take your place beside the Savior Sit down and be set free, Come to the table

Come meet this mightly crew of misfits, These liars and these thieves There's no one unwelcome here
That sin and shame that you brought with you
You can leave it at the door, And let mercy draw you near

So, come to the table Come join the sinners who have been redeemed Take your place beside the Savior Sit down and be set free, Come to the table, Come to the table

To the thief and to the doubter, To the hero and the coward To the prisoner and the soldier, To the young and to the older

All who hunger, all who thirst, All the last and all the first All the paupers and the princess, All who fail, you've been forgiven

All who dream and all who suffer, All who loved and lost another All the chained and all the free, All who follow all who lead

Anyone who's been let down, All the lost you have been found All who have been labeled right or wrong, To everyone who hears this song

Come to the table
Come join the sinners you have been redeemed
Take your place beside the Savior, Sit down and be set free

Oh, Sit down and be set free, Come to the table, Come to the table Sit down and be set free, Come to the table

Words and music by Ben Glover, Ben McDonald, Dave Frey @ 9t One Songs; Ariose Music; Mike Curb Music; Pencil Prophet Publishing; Run Run Milo Used by Permission. CCLI License #21962537

FIRES (video)

Jordan St. Cyr

I remember how You told me, That life may not be easy And everything that I need, You've already given me

I remember how You told me, I can trust You completely So why am I doubting, When You proved that You'd fight for me

You've walked me through fires, Pulled me from flames If You're in this with me, I won't be afraid When the smoke billows higher oh and higher And it feels like I can barely breathe I'll walk through these fires, 'Cause You're walking with me

I'm changed by Your mercy, Covered by Your peace I'm living out the victory, Doesn't mean I won't feel the heat

You've walked me through fires, Pulled me from flames
If You're in this with me, I won't be afraid
When the smoke billows higher oh and higher
And it feels like I can barely breathe
I'll walk through these fires, 'Cause You're walking with me

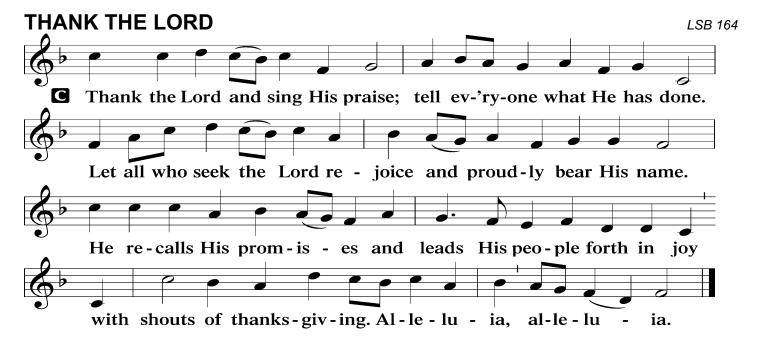
I can face anything, 'Cause You're here with me I can do all things, 'Cause You strengthen me

I remember how You showed me, The price of my redemption Lord how could I question, When You proved that You'd die for me You've walked me through fires, Pulled me from flames If You're in this with me, I won't be afraid When the smoke billows higher oh and higher And it feels like I can barely breathe I'll walk through these fires, 'Cause You're walking with me

I'll walk through these fires, 'Cause You're walking with me

### POST-COMMUNION DISMISSAL

- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.
- C Amen.

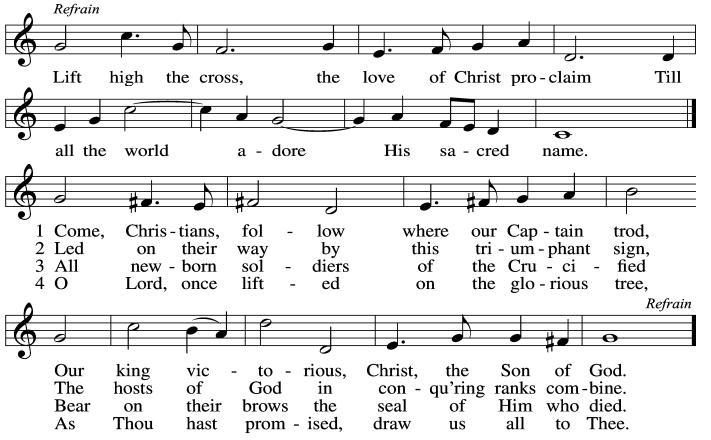


### BENEDICTION

- P To God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in His holy church, forever and ever.
- Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ shall come again!
- P Lift up your heads and open your eyes,
- for He is coming!
- **P** Who is coming?
- **☐** The King of glory!
- **P** Who is this King of glory?
- The Lord of hosts; He is the King of glory!
- P Blessings on Him who comes as King,
- who comes in the name of the Lord!
- The almighty and merciful God; the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit bless and preserve you, and lead you into everlasting life.
- Amen, amen, and amen!



sts. ref-6



- Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain
- So shall our song of triumph ever be: Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947Text and tune: © 1974 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000223

### **GUIDING STATEMENT**

Peace Conway is a loving Christian family, faithfully serving all people by sharing the good news of Jesus and caring for people in need.

### CLOSING PEACE

- [L] Go in Peace as you serve the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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