



1015 NE Orchard Dr. Pullman, WA 99163

(509) 332-2830, www.concordiapullman.org

Matt Gulseth, Pastor matt.gulseth@ concordiapullman.org Elizabeth O'Loughlin, Church Life Coordinator ElizabethOloughlin@ concordiapullman.org Amber King, Preschool Director preschool@ concordiapullman.org Jodie Stahlecker, Administrative Assistant jodie.stahlecker@ concordiapullman.org

STEADFAST AND FAITHFUL

AS WE GATHER

In today's Readings, we hear warnings about the coming day of the Lord. Such warnings can fill us with fear and questions. But we are also encouraged by God's faithfulness and steadfastness. He protects us from the assaults of Satan. He establishes us and keeps us. He directs our hearts toward love. "May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ" (2 Thessalonians 3:5). God grant us such hearts!

OPENING SENTENCES

- P The Lord is faithful.
- **C** He establishes us and guards us against Satan.
- P The Lord is steadfast.
- **C** He directs our hearts to love our neighbors.
- P We can be confident in the Lord and His love for us.
- **C** May He grant us quiet lives free from trouble.

+ PREPARATION +

738 LORD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS 1 Lord of all hope - ful ness. Lord of all joy, 2 Lord of all ea ger ness, Lord of all faith. 3 Lord Lord of all kind of all li _ ness, grace. 4 Lord of all of all calm. gen tle ness. Lord Whose trust. child - like. cares could de - stroy: ev - er no Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: Your hands swift to wel-come, Your arms to em - brace: Whose voice is tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm: con -Be there wak - ing. give at our and us. we pray, Be there at our la - bors. and give us. we pray, Be there our hom - ing, and give at us, we pray, Be sleep - ing. there at our and give us, we pray, Your bliss hearts, Lord, at the break of our the day. in Your strength in hearts, Lord, at the the day. our noon of Your love hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day. in our Your of the peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end day.

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INVOCATION

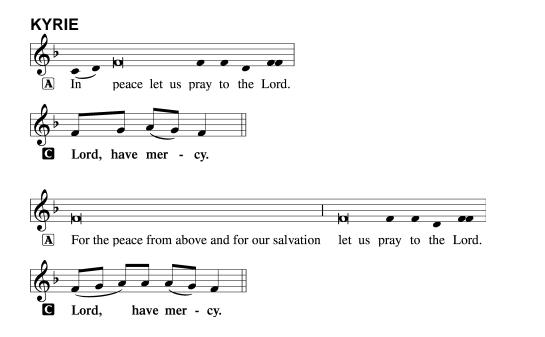
- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

In our lives, we struggle to follow Jesus' example of love, steadfastness, and faith. We have sown hatred, shown laziness, and known many doubts. We have not kept our eyes fixed on Jesus. Yet our heavenly Father invites us to draw near to His throne in confidence and ask for forgiveness.

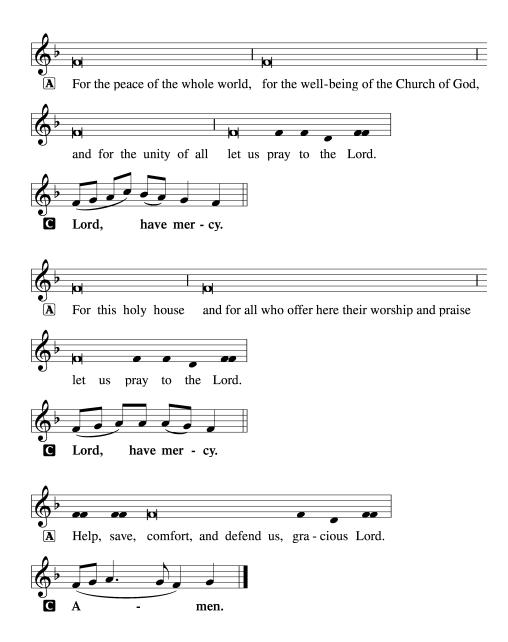
Silence for reflection.

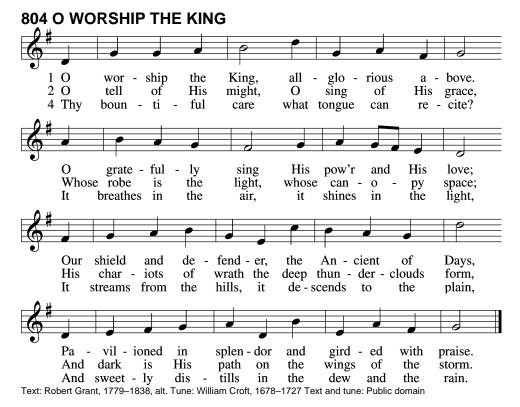
- P Heavenly Father,
- we have sinned against You in thoughts, words, and actions. Help us to serve in joy and love. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us back to You, on account of Jesus. Amen.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen. We are forgiven by the steadfast love of Christ.



+ WORD +

LSB 152





SALUTATION

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray.
- Lord Jesus Christ, You are always faithful. As we await Your promised return, help us to recognize Your gifts in this life so that we may serve You in confidence and quietness, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

¹ "For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ²But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ³And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

⁴"Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

Malachi 4:1–6

⁵"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 98; antiphon: v. 9b

MEN: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

WOMEN: The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

MEN: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

WOMEN: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

MEN: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

WOMEN: With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

MEN: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

WOMEN: Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together

MEN: before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

EPISTLE

2 Thessalonians 3:1–13

¹Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, ²and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. ³But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. ⁴And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command. ⁵May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

⁶Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. ⁹It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. ¹²Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

¹³As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

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

VERSE

Alleluia. Straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

⁵While some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, [Jesus] said, ⁶"As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." ⁷And they asked him, "Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?" ⁸And he said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is at hand!' Do not go after them. ⁹And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once."

¹⁰Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ¹¹There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. ¹²But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. ¹³This will be your opportunity to bear witness. ¹⁴Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, ¹⁵for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all for my name's sake. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your lives.

²⁰"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. ²¹Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, ²²for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. ²³Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress upon the earth and wrath against this people. ²⁴They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

²⁵"And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

O Praise to You, O Christ.

Luke 21:5–28

516 WAKE, AWAKE, FOR NIGHT IS FLYING



SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

 I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

> And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

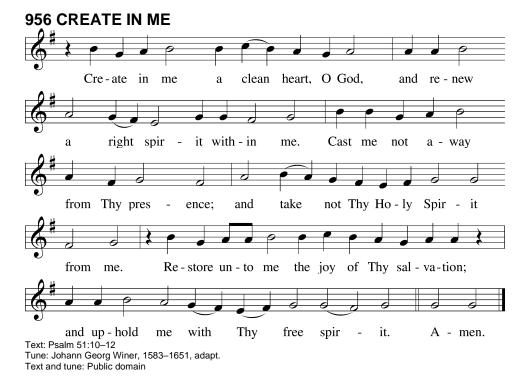
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
- **G** but hasten our salvation.
- Lord, we have filled our lives with so much busyness and chaos. Help us to remove from our lives those things that are not beneficial and to lead quiet, peaceful lives that honor You. O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
- **G** but hasten our salvation.
- P Lord, we are frequently tempted toward laziness and slothfulness. Strengthen us to not be idle or lazy, but to work diligently for the good of our neighbors. O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
- **G** but hasten our salvation.
- Lord, You have borne our griefs and shared in our sorrows. Comfort all those who are suffering in grief, [*especially*...] Point them to the hope of the resurrection to eternal life with Jesus. O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
- **G** but hasten our salvation.
- Lord, we pray for all of those who are single, whether by choice or circumstance. Be with them, Lord, and surround them with friends and community so that they might know the joys of fellowship and be kept from the agony of loneliness. O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
- **G** but hasten our salvation.

- Lord, we pray that Your Word might speed ahead so that all people hear the Good News of Your salvation. Embolden us to share that Good News with others. O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
- **G** but hasten our salvation.
- Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [<u>especially...</u>]. Have mercy upon them and restore them to health according to Your wisdom. O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
- **G** but hasten our salvation.
- Lord Jesus, we commend all these people and situations into Your hands, for You have promised to hear our prayers and intercede for us, and You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

OFFERING



+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

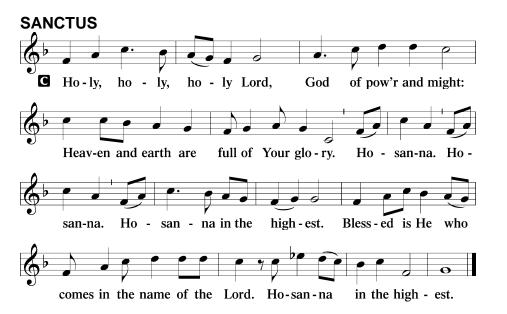
P The Lord be with you.

- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- G We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

LSB 161



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the

ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

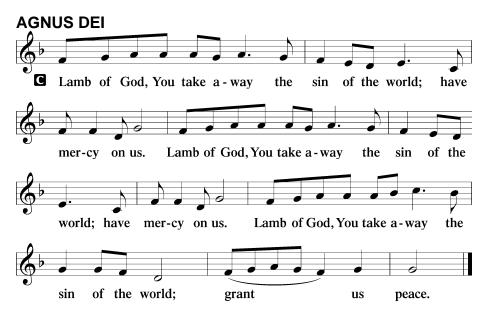
- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **G** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed 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:

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 bread; 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 +

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING

508 THE DAY IS SURELY DRAWING NEAR

490 JESUS LIVES! THE VICTORY'S WON

617 O LORD, WE PRAISE THEE

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

- C Amen.



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PrayersPrayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Prayers of thanks for Marsha Olsen, Kassidy Oloff, Ann Summerson, Caleb Knight, MJ Walker, and Rod Geigle who are celebrating their birthdays.

Thanksgiving for Larry & Laurel Branen as they celebrate their wedding anniversary.

Prayers of Comfort and Healing

For all who suffer from **mental health concerns.**

Prayers for comfort and understanding for all those who are battling cancer.

Healing for **Bill Gratz** as he heads to Seattle for more testing.

Baby Griffin and his sibling who has kidney problems.

Continued Healing for Julie Denison.

Healing for **Sally Manion**.

For **Shauna Lee Geigle** as she recovers from surgery.

Other Prayers

For St. Johns in Palmer as they are looking for a new pastor.

Safety for **all who are traveling**.

All who serve in our **armed forces** and their **families**.

Blessings on the recipients of operation Christmas child boxes.

Can we pray for you? Share your prayer requests by email at office@concordiapullman.org or fill out one of the white cards in the pews and place it in the offering plate.