Hymn No.654 – "In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful"

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; in the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God; do not be afraid. Lift up your voices, the Lord is near. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

Hymn No.301 – "Let Us Build a House"

 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
 a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
 Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
 here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain:

all are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: (Refrain)

3 Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine, and wheat; a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: (Refrain) 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: (Refrain)

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: (Refrain)

Hymn No. 298 "Lord, you Give the Great Commission"

1 Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word." Lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard, help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity: with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

2 Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach." That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each, give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community: with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

3 Lord, you make the common holy: "This, my body; this, my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glory, daily lift life heavenward, asking that the world around us share your children's liberty: with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Hymn No. 507 "Come to the Table"

1 Come to the table of grace.Come to the table of grace.This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.Come to the table of grace.

2 Come to the table of peace...

- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...

5 Come to the table of joy...

Hymn No. 607 "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen. 4 Lord, you show us love's true measure: "Father, what they do, forgive." Yet we hoard as private treasure all that you so freely give. May your care and mercy lead us to a just society: with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

5 Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end." Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend, and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity: with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Hymn No. 719 "Come, Labor On"

1 Come, labor on.

Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain while all around us waves the golden grain? And to each servant does the Master say, "Go work today."

2 Come, labor on.

Claim the high calling angels cannot share; to young and old the gospel gladness bear. Redeem the time; its hours too swiftly fly. The night draws nigh.

Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures for ever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress; he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town.

He turns rivers into a desert, springs of water into thirsty ground, a fruitful land into a salty waste, because of the wickedness of its inhabitants. He turns a desert into pools of water, a parched land into springs of water. And there he lets the hungry live, and they establish a town to live in; they sow fields, and plant vineyards, and get a fruitful yield.

Matthew 23:1-12

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, 'The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practise what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honour at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the market-places, and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. Nor are you to

3 Come, labor on.

Cast off all gloomy doubt and faithless fear! No arm so weak but may do service here. Though feeble agents, may we all fulfill God's righteous will.

4 Come, labor on.

No time for rest, till glows the western sky, till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie, and a glad sound comes with the setting sun, "Well done, well done!" be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.