**ALL SAINTS**

 (Standing)

Behold, a great multitude, which no one can number, out of every nation and of all tribes, and peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, with palm branches in their hands,

**And they cry with a loud voice saying, "Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb."**

 TUNE: LYONS

 Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!

 Let all cry aloud and honor the Son;

 The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,

 Fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

 Then let us adore and give him his right,

 All glory and power and wisdom and might,

 All honor and blessing with angels above,

 And thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

These are the ones of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and the holes in the ground. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were slain with the sword, they were burned at the stake, they were killed by an assassin's bullet. They were destitute, persecuted, tormented. These are the ones who have come out of great tribulation; they have washed their robes and cleansed them in the blood of the Lamb.

**Therefore they are before the throne of God, and they worship day and night in the temple.**

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their Shepherd, and will guide them to springs of living water.

**And God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.**

 TUNE: BEDFORD (14 C)

 Glory to God, whose witness train,

 Those heroes bold in faith,

 Could smile on poverty and pain

 And triumph e'en in death.

 God, whom we serve, our God can save,

 Can damp the scorching flame,

 Can build an ark, can smooth the wave,

 For such as love his name.

 Lord, if your arm support us still,

 With its eternal strength,

 We shall o'ercome the mightiest ill,

 And conquerors prove at length.

 (Kneeling or sitting)

Almighty God, Redeemer and Sustainer, we offer you thanks and praise for the holy lives of all your servants -- the prophets, apostles, and martyrs -- who have shone forth as lights in the world and sacrificed their lives in testimony of their faith.

 (On the Sunday nearest July 6 the following sentence is added:)

 We thank you for calling your servant John Hus to be an instrument of reformation and renewal in your church, and for keeping him faithful even unto a martyr's death.

We thank you for the triumphant fellowship of all the saints in glory. We remember before you all who have been called to the more immediate presence of the Savior, and especially those most dear to us and our congregation. We rejoice in our present fellowship with them, in our continuing hope, and in the promise of eternal joy. Let the great cloud of witnesses, the innumerable company of those who have gone before and entered into rest, be to us an example of godly life. May we run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith; and may we obtain entrance into your eternal kingdom, and with the glorious assembly of the saints, worship and adore you.

(Chant) **In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

 (Standing)

 TUNE: LANCASHIRE (151 M)

 Apostles, prophets, martyrs,

 And all the sacred throng

 Who wear the spotless raiment,

 Who raise the ceaseless song;

 For those passed on before us,

 Our Savior, we adore,

 And walking in their footsteps,

 Would serve you more and more.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,

**For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

**No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. If God is for us, who can be against us!**

Hear the words of the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, who was dead and is alive again: Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

**To him who loves us and washed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests to God, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.**

("Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand," Hymn 394, may be used in place of the following to conclude the liturgy.)

 TUNE: GOUDIMEL (205 A)

 O exalt and praise the Lord,

 Sing to Christ forevermore,

 Gratefully with one accord

 With the angels now adore;

 Thank him for the faithfulness

 Wherewith he his witnesses,

 Who in heav'n are perfected,

 Through great tribulation led.

 Let us call to mind with joy

 Those who have before us gone,

 Who obtained the victory

 Through the blood of Christ alone;

 That we all may zealously

 Imitate their constancy,

 Till we, too, the prize receive

 And with them in glory live.

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