

OCP Choral Series

The Love of Christ

Assembly, SATB Choir, Keyboard, and Guitar

Paule Freeburg, DC

Christopher Walker

INTRO *With conviction* (♩ = ca. 88)

Keyboard

C Dm7

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MUSIC · WORSHIP · SERVICE

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F/C C *mf* *S.* C Dm7

Soprano

Alto

1. The love of Christ is the rule of my
 2. The love of Christ is my strength and my
 3. The love of Christ is my free - dom from

Tenor

Bass

C/G G C D7 G

1. life, — guid - ing me through each day — and each night. —
 2. rock, — my ref - uge safe for all — of my days. —
 3. fear; — in him my heart may rest — and be sure. —

C F C/E

1. The love of Christ is the rule of my
 2. The love of Christ is my strength and my
 3. The love of Christ is my free - dom from

G C F

1, 2
C/G Dm7/G C

f

1. life, a lamp to my feet — and a bea - con of light. —
 2. rock, my for - tress and Sav - ior, — wor - thy of praise. —
 3. fear to be his for ev - er, —

Detailed description: This system contains the first two lines of the musical score. The top line is the vocal melody, and the bottom line is the piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first line of music is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes first and second endings. The lyrics are: "1. life, a lamp to my feet — and a bea - con of light. —", "2. rock, my for - tress and Sav - ior, — wor - thy of praise. —", and "3. fear to be his for ev - er, —". The piano accompaniment features chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

Dm7 G

Final
C/G Dm7/G C

mf *D.S.* *f*

2, 3. The 3. safe and se - cure. —

mf *f*

D.S. Final

Detailed description: This system contains the second two lines of the musical score. The top line is the vocal melody, and the bottom line is the piano accompaniment. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first line of music is marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes a *D.S.* (Da Capo) instruction. The lyrics are: "2, 3. The 3. safe and se - cure. —". The piano accompaniment features chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The system concludes with a final section marked *f* and *Final*.

Assembly Edition

THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Christopher Walker

1. The love of Christ is the rule of my life,
 2. The love of Christ is my strength and my rock,
 3. The love of Christ is my free - dom from fear;

1. guid - ing me through each day and each night. The
 2. my ref - uge safe for all of my days. The
 3. in him my heart may rest and be sure. The

1. love of Christ is the rule of my life, a
 2. love of Christ is my strength and my rock, my
 3. love of Christ is my free - dom from fear to

1. lamp to my feet and a bea - con of light.
 2. for - tress and Sav - ior, wor - thy of praise.
 3. be his for ev - er, safe and se - cure.

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Composer Notes

This energetic hymn of faith, praise, and comfort may be sung with or without accompaniment. Let your choir sing in unison until the assembly knows the piece well, then try the harmonies. It can be sung straight with the printed rhythm or with a gospel swing. The given accompaniment has been kept deliberately simple; feel free to embellish it and add percussion, as has been done on the recording. "The Love of Christ" can be found on two recordings, *Morning & Evening—Prayer for the Commute, Prayer for the Journey* (double CD #20099, songbook #20139) and *Glory Bound* (CD #20638, octavo packet #20639), a compilation of pieces from *Morning and Evening*.

Liturgical Use: This piece can serve as an entrance or recessional song at any time; for ordinations, celebrations to the religious life, rites of Christian Initiation, especially at the scrutinies during Lent and other times of commitment or discipleship.

—Christopher Walker