

LYRA GERMANICA SECOND SERIES THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

by Catherine Winkworth

Winkworth's translated collection of German hymns and spiritual songs exploring the various dimensions of the Christian life, bringing the rich devotional heritage of German Protestantism to English-speaking congregations.

146 Chapters

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Lyra Germanica Second Series The Christian Life

PREFACE.

Those who are best acquainted with the rich stores of German hymnology will feel the least surprise at the appearance of a second series of Translations from the same source. Many excellent and classical compositions were necessarily excluded from the plan of the former volume, which it was felt would still be no less acceptable to English Christians than those already translated. In this series therefore hymns are admitted of a more personal and individual character than in the former, -- hymns adapted to particular circumstances or periods of life, and to peculiar states of feeling. At the same time many will be found of sufficiently comprehensive import to be suited for congregational singing and will be recognized by those familiar with the services of the German Church as constantly used there in public worship, especially those on pages [2]145, [3]146, [4]170, and [5]68. The first of these indeed holds in Germany, with its fine old tune, much the same place as the Old Hundredth with us. The second is remarkable as being, as far as we know, the only hymn of its author, a man of consideration and wealth in Frankfort. It was published without his name, and as it immediately became popular it was ascribed at first to Hugo Grötius, and other celebrated authors. The third is one of the well-known hymns of [6]Joachim Neander, the most important hymnwriter of the German Reformed Church, whose productions are marked by great depth and tenderness of feeling. Most of the hymns under the last two divisions of this series are popular in Protestant Germany in the truest sense of the word, to be found in the well-worn hymn-books of every cottage home, or heard as the village funeral passes on to the "court of peace." It will be observed that one of the hymns for the burial of the dead bears the name of [7]Michael Weiss, and that some others are designated as belonging to the [8]Bohemian Brethren. These are productions of that ancient Church which existed in Bohemia from the first introduction of Christianity into that country by two Greek monks of the eighth century. In the eleventh century it formed itself into a separate community, distinguished from the Roman Church in Bohemia, among other things, by the celebration of public worship, according to the native ritual and in the vulgar tongue. After suffering bitter persecutions under various Popes, in one of which John Huss was burnt in 1415, in 1453 its remaining members, including men of all classes, withdrew to a district assigned to them on the borders of Silesia and Moravia, where we find them, fifty years later, numbering about two hundred congregations, under the name of Brethren or United Brethren. But here too fierce persecutions followed them; their countrymen were incited from the pulpits to hunt them down like wild beasts; and in 1508, despairing of peace at home, they sent out four messengers to search whether anywhere a Christian people might be found, serving Christ truly, into whose communion they might ask admission. One of these brethren went to Russia, one to Greece, one to Bulgaria, and one to Palestine and Egypt; but they all returned unsuccessful, no such Christian people had they found. Two more were then sent to the Waldenses in France and Italy, but they too brought back nothing but admonitions to patience and steadfastness. The Brethren therefore remained in their own country, and occupied themselves in printing the Bible, no fewer than three editions having been published in Bohemia before the Reformation. The dawn of that great event filled them with joy, and in 1522 they sent two messengers to [9]Luther to greet him and ask his advice, one of whom was [10]Michael Weiss. In

1531 Michael Weiss published the hymns of the Bohemian Brethren translated into German, with the addition of several of his own. They passed through many editions, and some of them were introduced into Luther's hymn-book. They have great warmth of feeling, and directness of expression, (often with intricate metres,) and are marked by frequent pathetic reference to the troubles of this Church, and by a strong sense of the living union of Christians with each other and their Head. The subsequent settlement of the small remnant of this Church on [11]Count Zinzendorf's estates in Saxony, and its rapid growth and spread into other countries are well known. That the spirit of Christian poetry still lives among them in modern times is proved by the names of [12]Zinzendorf, [13]Christian Gregor, [14]L. von Hayn, [15]Spangenberg, and [16]Albertini. [1] As the object of this work is chiefly devotional, the hymns are arranged according to their subjects, not in chronological order, and have been selected for their warmth of feeling and depth of Christian experience, rather than as specimens of a particular master or school. Still it is believed that these two series afford on the whole fair examples of most of the principal writers, not of course without omissions, since only about two hundred and twenty hymns are given from a literature containing several thousands. Of [17]Luther none are given in this series, (unless the hymn known as "[18]Queen Maria of Hungary's song" were written by him for that princess,) for those productions of his which no collection of German hymns could omit, had been already inserted in the previous volume, and there seemed the less necessity for introducing any of minor importance, as all his hymns are accessible to the English reader in the excellent translation of Mr. Massie. [2] The writers perhaps the least fully represented, are [19]Gellert, [20]Klopstock, and others of the middle and latter half of the last century, whose productions constitute a large proportion of most of the collections made fifty or sixty years ago. But these hymns are, for the most part, either of a purely reflective or didactic character, or in very many instances are merely versions of more ancient hymns, smoothed down to a dead level of tame correctness in form, and robbed of their original fervour and strength. Gellert, however, appreciated the characteristic excellences of the ancient hymns, and his own have high merit, as lessons of Christian duty, or paraphrases of Scripture, expressed in simple, clear, and unaffected verse, sometimes with much true poetic feeling. Yet while they thus supplied a want among the hymns of his country, -- which, during the last century especially, had lost that direct application to real life which makes a hymn speak to the hearts of all, -- and have therefore become very popular in Germany, for the same reason they more nearly resemble what we already possess in our own language. There is a very large school of hymn-writers springing up in Germany at the present day, whose works are distinguished by much thoughtful feeling and great fluency and sweetness of expression. In general, however, these hymns are suited rather to private reading, than congregational singing; the length of the lines, and the reflective tone of thought, deprive them of that strength and simple grandeur which many of the older hymns possess. Specimens are given here from [21]Spitta, [22]Puchta, [23]Knapp, [24]Hensel, and others; those hymns to which no dates are affixed being written by authors living or very recently deceased. The hymns in this series have been chosen from various sources, most of them being such as would be found in any standard collection. The greater number, however, are taken from Bunsen's "Versuch eines allgemeinen Gesang und Gebet buchs," a collection distinguished above most others by its wide range of Christian experience and sympathy, and the poetic merit of the versions it gives. The short notices prefixed to some of these hymns are derived from the same source. One or two verses have been omitted in several of the hymns, for in many instances even fine hymns are weakened by repetition, or

disfigured by verses of decidedly inferior merit; this is especially the case with [25]Paul Gerhardt, notwithstanding the remarkable beauty of his works. The original metre has been almost invariably maintained; in some hymns metres strange to our ears have been preserved with care for the sake of the fine chorales attached to them. Alderley Edge,

May 19th, 1858 *[*]* From the frequent inquiries received from clergymen and others for tunes adapted to these hymns, it has been arranged to bring out an [26]edition of the work, containing the fine old German chorales to which they are sung in their own country by vast congregations. This edition, which will shortly be completed, is now in progress, under the superintendence of Professor Sterndale Bennett and Mr. Otto Goldschmidt, and will be adapted for use in choirs and families. Feb.15, 1859

PART I. AIDS OF THE CHURCH

I. HOLY SEASONS. [27]II. SERVICES. HOLY SEASONS. [28]Advent

[29]Christmas

[30]Epiphany

[31]Passion Week

[32]Easter

[33]Ascension

[34]Whitsuntide

[35]Trinity

ADVENT. Ye heavens, oh haste your dews to shed

[36]1. Ye heavens, oh haste your dews to shed

[37]2. Arise, the kingdom is at hand

[38]3. Wherefore dost Thou longer tarry

[39]4. Thank God that towards eternity

Advent The Dayspring from on High.

I.

The Dayspring from on High. 8,8,8,8 Ihr Himmel tröpfelt Thau in Eil [41]Johann Franck.1653. Ye heavens, oh haste your dews to shed, Ye clouds, rain gladness on our head, Thou earth, behold the time of grace, And blossom forth in righteousness! O living Sun, with joy break forth, And pierce the gloomy clefts of earth; Behold, the mountains melt away Like wax beneath Thine ardent ray!O Life-dew of the Churches, come,And bid this arid desert bloom!The sorrows of Thy people see,And take our human flesh on Thee.Refresh the parch'd and drooping mind,The broken limb in mercy bind,Us sinners from our guilt release,And fill us with Thy heavenly peace.O wonder! night no more is night!Comes then at last the long'd-for light?Ah yes, Thou shinest, O true Sun,In whom are God and man made one!

Advent The Deliverer.

II.

The Deliverer. 8,6,8,6,6,8,8,6 Auf, auf, ihr Reichsgenossen [43]Rist.1651. Arise, the kingdom is at hand, The King is drawing nigh; Arise with joy, O faithful band, To meet the Lord most high! Ye Christians, hasten forth, With holy ardours greet your King, And glad Hosannas to Him sing, Nought else your love is worth. Look up, ye drooping hearts, to-day! The King is very near, Oh cast your griefs and fears away, For lo! your Help is here; And comfort rich and sweet In many a place for us is stored, Where in His sacraments and word Our Saviour we can meet. Look up, ye souls weigh'd down with care! The Sovereign is not far. Look up, faint hearts, from your despair, Behold the Morning Star! The Lord is with us now, Who shall the sinking spirit feed With strength and comfort at its need, To whom e'en Death shall bow. Hope, O ye broken hearts, at last! The King comes on in might, He loved us in the ages past When we sat wrapp'd in night; Now are our sorrows o'er, And fear and wrath to joy give place, Since God hath made us in His grace His children evermore. O rich the gifts Thou bringest us, Thyself made poor and weak; O love beyond compare that thus Can foes and sinners seek! For this to Thee alone We raise on high a gladsome voice, And evermore with thanks rejoice Before Thy glorious throne.

Advent The Heart longing for the inner advent.

III.

The Heart longing for the inner advent. 8,7,8,7,7,7,8,8 Warum willst du drauszen stehn [45]Paul Gerhardt.1653. Wherefore dost Thou longer tarry, Blessed of the Lord, afar? Would it were Thy will to enter To my heart, O Thou my Star, Thou my Jesus, Fount of power, Helper in the needful hour! Sharpest wounds my heart is feeling, Touch them, Saviour, with Thy healing!For I shrink beneath the terrorsOf the law's tremendous sway;All my countless crimes and errorsStand before me night and day.Oh the heavy, fearful loadOf the righteous wrath of God!Oh the awful voice of thunderCleaving heart and soul asunder!While the foe my soul is telling,"There is grace no more for thee,Thou must make thy endless dwellingIn the pains that torture me."Yes, and keener still thy smart,Conscience, in my anguished heart,By thy venomed tooth tormented,Long-past sins are sore repented.Would I then, to soothe my sorrow,And my pain awhile forget,From the world a comfort borrow,I but sink the deeper yet;She hath comforts that but grieve,Joys that stinging memories leave,Helpers that my heart are breaking,Friends that do but mock its aching.All the world can give is cheating,Strengthless all, and merely nought;Have I greatness, it is fleeting;Have I riches, are they aughtBut a heap of glittering earth?Pleasure? Little is it worthWhen it brings no joy or laughterThat we shall not rue hereafter.All delight, all consolationLies in Thee, Lord Jesus Christ,Feed my soul with Thy salvation,O Thou Bread of Life unpriced.Blessed Light, within me glow,Ere my heart breaks in its woe;Oh refresh me and uphold me,Jesus, come, let me behold Thee.Joy, my soul, for He hath heard thee,He will come and enter in;Lo! He turns and draweth toward thee,Let thy welcome-song begin;Oh prepare thee for such guest,Give thee wholly to thy rest,With an open'd heart adore Him,Pour thy griefs and fears before Him.Thy misdeeds are thine no longer,He hath cast them in the sea,And the love of God shall conquerAll the strength of sin in thee.Christ is victor in the field,Mightiest wrong to Him must yield,He with blessing will exalt theeO'er whatever would assault thee.What would seem to hurt or shame theeShall but work thy good at last;Since that Christ hath deign'd to claim thee,And His truth stands ever fast;And if thine can but endure,There is nought so fixed and sure,As that thou shalt hymn His praisesIn the happy heavenly places.

Advent The New Year.

IV.

The New Year. Composed on his journey to Gotha after his unjust expulsion from Erfurt; as we are told in the oration delivered at his grave, "in the full experience of the unspeakable consolations of the Holy Spirit." 8,6,8,6,8,8,6 Gottlob ein Schritt zur Ewigkeit [47]A. H. Francke.1691 Thank God that towards eternity Another step is won! Oh longing turns my heart to Thee As Time flows flowly on, Thou Fountain whence my life is born, Whence those rich streams of grace are drawn That through my being run!! count the hours, the days, the years,That stretch in tedious line,Until, O Life, that hour appears,When, at Thy touch divine,Whate'er is mortal now in meShall be consumed for aye in Thee,And deathless life be mine.So glows Thy love within this frame,That, touch'd with keenest fire,My whole soul kindles in the flameOf one intense desire,To be in Thee, and Thou in me,And e'en while yet on earth to beStill pressing closer, nigher!Oh that I soon might Thee behold!! count the moments o'er;Ah come, ere yet my heart grows coldAnd cannot call Thee more!Come in Thy glory, for Thy BrideHath girt her for the holy-tide,And waiteth at the door.And since Thy Spirit sheds abroadThe oil of grace in me,And Thou art inly near me, Lord,And I am lost in Thee,So shines in me the Living Light,And steadfast burns my lamp and bright,To greet Thee joyously.Come! is the voice, then, of Thy Bride,She loudly prays Thee come!With faithful heart she long hath cried,Come quickly, Jesus, come!Come, O my Bridegroom, Lamb of God,Thou knowest I am Thine, dear Lord;Come down and take me home.Yet be the hour that none can tellLeft wholly to Thy choice,Although I know Thou lov'st it well,That I with heart and voiceShould bid Thee come, and from this dayCare but to meet Thee on Thy way,And at Thy sight rejoice!! joy that from Thy love divineNo power can part me now,That I may dare to call Thee mine,My Friend, my Lord, avow,That I, O Prince of Life, shall beMade wholly one in heaven with Thee;My portion, Lord, art Thou!And therefore do my thanks o'erflow,That one more year is gone,And of this Time, so poor, so slow,Another step is won;And with a heart that may not wait,Toward yonder distant golden gatel journey gladly on.And when the wearied hands grow weak,And wearied knees give way,To sinking faith, oh quickly speak,And make Thine arm my stay;That so my heart drink in new strength,And I speed on, nor feel the lengthNor steepness of the way.Then on, my soul, with fearless faith,Let nought thy terror move;Nor aught that earthly pleasure saithE'er tempt thy steps to rove;If slow thy course seem o'er the waste,Mount upwards with the eagles' haste,On wings of tireless love.O Jesus, all my soul hath flownAlready up to Thee,For Thou, in whom is love alone,Hast wholly conquer'd me.Farewell, ye phantoms, day and year,Eternity is round me here,Since, Lord, I live in Thee.

CHRISTMAS. All my heart this night rejoices

[48]1. All my heart this night rejoices

[49]2. Thou fairest Child Divine

[50]3. O blessed Jesus! This

Christmas A Song of Joy at Dawn

I.

A Song of Joy at Dawn 8,3,3,6 Fröhlich foll mein Herze springen [52]Paul Gerhardt.1651 All my heart this night rejoices, As I hear, Far and near, Sweetest angel voices; "Christ is born," their choirs are singing, Till the air Everywhere Now with joy is ringing.For it dawns, -- the promised morrowOf His birthWho the earthRescues from her sorrow.God to wear our form descendeth,Of His graceTo our raceHere His Son He lendeth:Yea, so truly for us careth,That His SonAll we've doneAs our offering beareth;As our Lamb who, dying for us,Bears our load,And to GodDoth in peace restore us.Hark! a voice from yonder manger,Soft and sweet,Doth entreat,"Flee from woe and danger;Brethren come, from all doth grieve youYou are freed,All you needI will surely give you."Come then, let us hasten yonder;Here let all,Great and small,Kneel in awe and wonder.Love Him who with love is yearning;Hail the StarThat from farBright with hope is burning!Ye who pine in weary sadness,Weep no more,For the doorNow is found of gladness.Cling to Him, for He will guide youWhere no cross,Pain or loss,Can again betide you.Hither come, ye heavy-hearted;Who for sinDeep within,Long and sore have smarted;For the poison'd wounds you're feelingHelp is near,One is hereMighty for their healing!Hither come, ye poor and wretched;Know His wills to fillEvery hand outstretched;Here are riches without measure,Here forgetAll regret,Fill your hearts with treasure.Blessed Saviour, let me find Thee!Keep Thou meClose to Thee,Cast me not behind Thee!Life of life, my heart Thou stillest,Calm I restOn Thy breast,All this void Thou fillest.Thee, dear Lord, with heed I'll cherish,Live to Thee,And with TheeDying, shall not perish;But shall dwell with Thee for ever,Far on high,In the joyThat can alter never.

Christmas We love Him for He first loved Us.

II.

We love Him for He first loved Us. 6,6,8,6 Du schönstes Gotteskind [54]Tersteegen.1731. Thou fairest Child Divine, In yonder manger laid, In whom is God Himself well pleased, By whom were all things made, On me art Thou bestow'd; How can such wonders be! The dearest that the Father hath He gives me here in Thee! I was a foe to God, I fought in Satan's host, I trifled all His grace away, Alas! my soul was lost. Yet God forgets my sin, His heart, with pity moved, He gives me, Heavenly Child, in Thee; Lo! thus our God hath loved! Once blind with sin and self, Along the treacherous way, That ends in ruin at the last, I hasten'd far astray; Then God sent down His Son For with a love most deep, Most undeserved, His heart still yearn'd O'er me, poor wandering sheep! God with His life of love To me was far and strange, My heart clung only to the world Of sight and sense and change; In Thee, Immanuel, Are God and man made one; In Thee my heart hath peace with God, And union in the Son. Oh ponder this, my soul, Our God hath loved us thus, That even His only dearest Son He freely giveth us. Thou precious gift of God, The pledge and bond of love, With thankful heart I kneel to take This treasure from above. I kneel beside Thy couch, I press Thee to my heart, For Thee I gladly all forsake And from the creature part: Thou priceless Pearl! lo, he By whom Thou'rt loved and known, Will give himself and all he hath To win Thee for his own. Oh come, Thou Blessed Child, Thou Saviour of my soul, For ever bound to Thee, my name Among Thy host enrol. Oh deign to take my heart, And let Thy heart be mine, That all my love flow out to Thee, And lose itself in Thine.

Christmas God with Us.

III.

God with Us. 6,6,10,6,6,10 Herr Jesu Christ dein Kripplein ist [56]Paul Gerhardt. O blessed Jesus! This Thy lowly manger is The Paradise where oft my soul would feed: Here is the place, my Lord, Where lies the Eternal Word Clothed with our flesh, made like to us indeed. For He whose mighty sway The winds and seas obey, Submits to serve, and stoops to those who sin; The glorious Son of God Doth bear the mortal load Of earth and dust, like us and all our kin. For thus, O Good Supreme, Wilt Thou our flesh redeem, And raise it to Thy throne o'er every height: Eternal Strength, here Thou To brotherhood dost bow With transient things that pass like mists of night. Thy glory and Thy joy All woe and grief destroy; Thou, Heavenly Treasure, dost all wealth restore! Thou deep and living Well! Thou great Immanuel Dost conquer sin and death for evermore! Then come, whoe'er thou art, O poor desponding heart, Take courage now, let this thy fears dispel, That since His Son most dear Thy God hath given thee here, It cannot be but God doth love thee well. How often dost thou think That thou must surely sink, That hope and comfort are no more for thee; Come hither then and gaze Upon this Infant's face, And here the love of God incarnate see. Ah now the blessed door Stands open evermore To all the joys of this world and the next: This Babe will be our Friend, And quickly make an end Of all that faithful hearts long time hath vex'd. Then, earth, we care no more To seek thy richest store, If but this treasure will be still our own; And he who holds it fast, Till all this life is past, Our Lord will crown with joy before His throne.

EPIPHANY. O King of Glory! David's Son!

[57]1. O King of Glory! David's Son!

[58]2. Christ, our true and only Light

[59]3. Is thy heart athirst to know

[60]4. Ever would I fain be reading

Epiphany The King of Men.

I.

The King of Men. 8,6,8,6 O König aller Ehren [62]Behemb.1606. O King of Glory! David's Son! Our Sovereign and our Friend! In Heaven for ever stands Thy throne, Thy kingdom hath no end: Oh now to all men, far and near, Lord, make it known, we pray. That as in heaven all creatures here May know Thee and obey. The Eastern sages gladly bring Their tribute-gifts to Thee; They witness that Thou art their King, And humbly bow the knee; To Thee the Morning Star doth lead, To Thee th' inspired Word, We hail Thee, Saviour in our need, We worship Thee, the Lord. Ah look on me with pitying grace, Though weak and poor I be, Within Thy kingdom grant a place Secure and blest to me. Oh rescue me from all my woes, And shield me with Thine arm From Sin and Death, the mighty foes That daily seek our harm. And bid Thy Word, the fairest Star, Within us clearly shine; Keep sin and all false doctrine far, Since Thou hast claim'd us Thine: Let us Thy name aright confess, And with Thy Christendom, Our King and Saviour own and bless Through all the world to come.

Epiphany The Light of the World.

II.

The Light of the World. 8,8,8,8 O Jesu Christe wahres Licht [64]J. Heermann.1630. Christ, our true and only Light, Illumine those who sit in night, Let those afar now hear Thy voice, And in Thy fold with us rejoice. Fill with the radiance of Thy grace The souls now lost in error's maze, And all whom in their secret minds Some dark delusion hurts and blinds.And all who else have stray'd from Thee,Oh gently seek! Thy healing beTo every wounded conscience given,And let them also share Thy heaven.Oh make the deaf to hear Thy word,And teach the dumb to speak, dear Lord,Who dare not yet the faith avow,Though secretly they hold it now.Shine on the darken'd and the cold,Recal the wanderers from Thy fold,Unite those now who walk apart,Confirm the weak and doubting heart.So they with us may evermoreSuch grace with wondering thanks adore,And endless praise to Thee be givenBy all Thy Church in earth and heaven.

Epiphany Forsaking all for the True Light.

III.

Forsaking all for the True Light. 7,7,7,7,7,7 Wer im Herzen will erfahren [66]Laurentius Laurenti.1700. Is thy heart athirst to know That the King of heaven and earth Deigns to dwell with man below, Yea, hath stoop'd to mortal birth? Search the Word with ceaseless care Till thou find this treasure there. With the sages from afar Journey on o'er sea and land, Till thou see the Morning Star O'er thy heart unchanging stand, Then shalt thou behold His face Full of mercy, truth and grace. For if Christ be born within, Soon that likeness shall appear Which the heart had lost through sin, God's own image fair and clear, And the soul serene and bright Mirrors back His heavenly light. Jesus, let me seek for nought But that Thou shouldst dwell in me; Let this only fill my thought, How I may grow liker Thee, Through this earthly care and strife, Through the calm eternal life. With the wise who know Thee right, Though the world accounts them fools, I will praise Thee day and night, I will order by Thy rules All my life, that it may be Fill'd with praise and love of Thee.

Epiphany Christ our Example.

IV.

Christ our Example. 8,7,8,7 Immer muss ich wieder lesen [68]Luise Hensel. Ever would I fain be reading In the ancient holy Book, Of my Saviour's gentle pleading, Truth in every word and look. How when children came He bless'd them, Suffer'd no man to reprove, Took them in His arms, and press'd them To His heart with words of love. How to all the sick and tearful Help was ever gladly shown; How He sought the poor and fearful, Call'd them brothers and His own. How no contrite soul e'er sought Him, And was bidden to depart, How with gentle words He taught him, Took the death from out his heart. Still I read the ancient story, And my joy is ever new, How for us He left His glory, How He still is kind and true. How the flock He gently leadeth Whom His Father gave Him here; How His arms He widely spreadeth To His heart to draw us near. Let me kneel, my Lord, before Thee, Let my heart in tears o'erflow, Melted by Thy love adore Thee, Blest in Thee 'mid joy or woe!

PASSION WEEK. Whenever again thou sinkest

[69]1. Whenever again thou sinkest

[70]2. Oh, world! behold upon the tree

[71]3. Jesus, the merit

[72]4. Him on yonder cross I love

[73]5. Thou sore-oppress'd

[74]6. Lord Jesus, who, our souls to save

Passion Week In the Garden.

I.

In the Garden. 7,6,7,6 Wenn je du wieder zagst [76]W. Hey.1828. Whenever again thou sinkest, My heart, beneath thy load, Or from the battle shrinkest, And murmurest at thy God; Then I will lead thee hither, To watch thy Saviour's prayer, And learn from His endurance How thou shouldst also bear. Oh come, wouldst thou be like Him, Thy Lord Divine, and mark What sharpest sorrows strike Him, What anguish deep and dark, -- That earnest cry to spare Him, The trial scarce begun? Yet still he saith: "My Father, Thy will, not mine, be done." Oh wherefore doth His spirit Such bitter conflict know? What sins, what crimes could merit Such deep and awful woe? So pure are not the heavens, So clear the noonday sun, And yet He saith: "My Father, Thy will, not mine, be done!" Oh mark that night of sorrow, That agony of prayer; No friend can watch till morrow His grief to soothe and share; Oh where shall He find comfort? With God, with God alone; And still He saith: "My Father, Thy will, not mine, be done!" Hath life for Him no gladness, No joy the light of day? Can He then feel no sadness, When heart and hope give way? That cup of mortal anguish One bitter cry hath won, That it might pass: "Yet, Father, Thy will, not mine, be done!" And who the cup prepared Him, And who the poison gave? 'Twas one He loved ensnared Him, 'Twas those He came to save. Oh sharpest pain, to suffer Betray'd and mock'd -- alone; Yet still He saith: "My Father, Thy will, not mine, be done!" But what is joy or living, What treachery or death, When all His work, His striving, Seems hanging on His breath? Oh can it stand without Him, That work but just begun? Yet still He saith: "My Father, Thy will, not mine, be done!" He speaks; no more He shrinketh, Himself He offers up, He sees it all, yet drinketh For us that bitter cup, He goes to meet the traitor, The cross He will not shun, -- He saith: "I come, My Father, Thy will, not mine, be done!" My Saviour, I will never Forget Thy word of grace, But still repeat it ever, Through good and evil days; And looking up to Heaven, Till all my race is run, I'll humbly say: "My Father, Thy will, not mine, be done!"

Passion Week At the Foot of the Cross.

II.

At the Foot of the Cross. 8,8,8,8,8,8 O Welt, sich hier dein Leben [78]Paul Gerhardt.1659. Oh, world! behold upon the tree Thy Life is hanging now for thee, Thy Saviour yields His dying breath; The mighty Prince of glory now For thee doth unresisting bow To cruel stripes, to scorn and death. Draw near, O world, and mark Him well; Behold the drops of blood that tell How sore His conflict with the foe: And hark! how from that noble heart, Sigh after sigh doth slowly start From depths of yet unfathom'd woe. Alas! my Saviour, who could dare Bid Thee such bitter anguish bear, What evil heart entreat Thee thus? For Thou art good, hast wronged none, As we and ours too oft have done, Thou hast not sinn'd, dear Lord, like us. I and my sins, that number more Than yonder sands upon the shore, Have brought to pass this agony; 'Tis I have caused the floods of woe That now Thy dying soul o'erflow, And those sad hearts that watch by Thee. 'Tis I to whom these pains belong, 'Tis I should suffer for my wrong, Bound hand and foot in heavy chains; The scourge, the fetters, whatsoe'er Thou bearest, 'tis my soul should bear, For she hath well deserved such pains. Yet Thou dost even for my sake On Thee in love the burdens take That weigh'd my spirit to the ground: Yes, Thou art made a curse for me, That I might yet be blest through Thee; My healing in Thy wounds is found. To save me from the monster's power, From Death that all things would devour, Thyself into his jaws dost leap; My death Thou takest thus away, And buriest in Thy grave for aye, O love most strangely true and deep! From henceforth there is nought of mine But I would seek to make it Thine, Since all myself to Thee I owe. Whate'er my utmost powers can do, To Thee to render service true, Here at Thy feet I lay it low. Ah! little have I, Lord, to give, So poor, so base the life I live, But yet, till soul and body part, This one thing I will do for Thee -- The woe, the death endured for me, I'll cherish in my inmost heart. Thy cross shall be before my sight, My hope, my joy, by day and night, Whate'er I do, where'er I rove; And, gazing, I will gather thence The form of spotless innocence, The seal of faultless truth and love. And from Thy sorrows will I learn How fiercely doth God's anger burn, How terribly His thunders roll, How sorely this our loving God Can smite with His avenging rod, How deep His floods o'erwhelm the soul. And I will study to adorn My heart with meekness under scorn, With gentle patience in distress, With faithful love, that yearning cleaves To those o'er whom to death it grieves, Whose sins its very soul oppress. When evil tongues with stinging blame Would cast dishonour on my name, I'll curb the passions that upstart; And take injustice patiently, And pardon, as Thou pardon'st me, With an ungrudging generous heart. And I will nail me to Thy cross, And learn to count all things but dross Wherein the flesh doth pleasure take; Whate'er is hateful in Thine eyes, With all the strength that in me lies, Will I cast from me and forsake. Thy heavy groans, Thy bitter sighs, The tears that from Thy dying eyes Were shed when Thou wast sore oppress'd, Shall be with me, when at the last Myself on Thee I wholly cast, And enter with Thee into rest.

Passion Week Our Heritage.

III.

Our Heritage. 6,6,6,6 Ach Jesu, dein Sterben [80]Anon. Jesus, the merit Of all that Thou hast borne Maketh me inherit The crown that hath no thorn! Ah then, teach me duly To worship at Thy cross, Owing inly, truly, The Love that bore our loss. There to sin, oh let me From henceforth daily die; Nor in death forget me, Then grant me life on high.

Passion Week Our Requital.

IV.

Our Requital. 7,7,7,7 Der am Kreuz ist meine Liebe [82]Greding. Born 1676. Him on yonder cross I love, Nought beside on earth count dear! May He mine for ever prove, Who is now so inly near! Here I stand: whate'er may come, Days of sunshine or of gloom, From this word I will not move; Him upon the cross I love!'Tis not hidden from my heart,What true love must often bring;Want and grief have sorest smart,Care and scorn can sharply sting;Nay, but if Thy will were such,Bitterest death were not too much!Dark though here my course may prove:Him upon the cross I love!Rather sorrows such as these,Rather love's acutest pain,Than without Him days of ease,Riches false and honours vain.Count me strange, when I am true,What He hates I will not do;Sneers no more my heart can move;Him upon the cross I love!Know ye whence my strength is drawn,Fearless thus the fight to wage?Why my heart can laugh to scornFleshly weakness, Satan's rage?'Tis, I know the love of Christ,Mighty is that love unpriced!What can grieve me, what can move?Him upon the cross I love!Once the eyes that now are dim,Shall discern the changeless loveThat hath led us home to Him,That hath crown'd us far above:Would to God that all belowWhat that love is now might know,And their hearts this word approve:Him upon the cross I love!

Passion Week At the Sepulchre.

V.

At the Sepulchre. 4,4,7,7,6 Nun gingst auch Du [84]Viktor Strauss. Thou sore-oppress'd, The Sabbath rest In yon still grave art keeping! All Thy labour now is done, Past is all Thy weeping! The strife is o'er, Nought hurts Thee more, The heart at last hath slumber'd, That in conflict sore for us Bore our sins unnumber'd. Thou awful tomb, Once fill'd with gloom! How blessed and how holy Art thou now, since in the grave Slept the Saviour lowly! How calm and blest The dead now rest Who in the Lord departed! All their works do follow them, Yea, they sleep glad-hearted. O lead us Thou, To rest e'en now, With all who sorely anguish'd Neath the burden of their sins, Long in woe have languish'd. O Blessed Rock! Soon grant Thy flock To see Thy Sabbath morning! Strife and pain will all be past When that day is dawning.

Passion Week Our Rest.

VI.

Our Rest. 8,8,8,8 Der du, Herr Jesu, Ruh und Rast [86]George Werner.1638. Lord Jesus, who, our souls to save, Didst rest and slumber in the grave, Now grant us all in Thee to rest, And here to live as seems Thee best. Give us the strength, the dauntless faith, That Thou hast purchased with Thy death, And lead us to that glorious place, Where we shall see the Father's face.O Lamb of God! who once wast slain,We thank Thee for that bitter pain!Let us partake Thy death that weMay enter into life with Thee!

EASTER. Christ the Lord is risen again!

[87]1. Christ the Lord is risen again!

[88]2. Ere yet the dawn hath fill'd the skies

[89]3. I say to all men, far and near

[90]4. O risen Lord! O conquering King!

[91]5. Sad with longing, sick with fears

Easter The Song of Triumph.

I.

The Song of Triumph. 7,7,7,7+4 Christus ist erstanden [93]Bohemian Brethren. Christ the Lord is risen again! Christ hath broken every chain! Hark, the angels shout for joy, Singing evermore on high, Hallelujah. He who gave for us His life, Who for us endured the strife, Is our Paschal Lamb to-day! We too sing for joy, and say: Hallelujah. He who bore all pain and loss Comfortless upon the cross, Lives in glory now on high, Pleads for us and hears our cry: Hallelujah. He whose path no records tell, Who descended into hell, Who the strong man arm'd hath bound, Now in highest heaven is crown'd: Hallelujah. He who slumber'd in the grave, Is exalted now to save; Now through Christendom it rings That the Lamb is King of kings! Hallelujah. Now He bids us tell abroad, How the lost may be restored, How the penitent forgiven, How we too may enter heaven. Hallelujah. Thou our Paschal Lamb indeed, Christ, to-day Thy people feed; Take our sins and guilt away, That we all may sing for aye, Hallelujah.

Easter Christ our Champion.

II.

Christ our Champion. 8,8,8,8+4 Frühmorgens da die Sonn aufgeht [95]J. Heermann.1630. Ere yet the dawn hath fill'd the skies Behold my Saviour Christ arise, He chaseth from us sin and night, And brings us joy and life and light. Hallelujah. O stronger Thou than Death and Hell, Where is the foe Thou canst not quell? What heavy stone Thou canst not rollFrom off the prison'd anguish'd soul?Hallelujah.If Jesus lives, can I be sad?I know He loves me, and am glad;Though all the world were dead to me,Enough, O Christ, if I have Thee!Hallelujah.He feeds me, comforts and defends,And when I die His angel sendsTo bear me whither He is gone,For of His own He loseth none.Hallelujah.No more to fear or grief I bow,God and the angels love me now;The joys prepared for me to-dayDrive fear and mourning far away;Hallelujah.Strong Champion! For this comfort seeThe whole world brings her thanks to Thee;And once we too shall raise aboveMore sweet and loud the song we love;Hallelujah.

Easter The Whole World restored in Christ.

III.

The Whole World restored in Christ. 8,6,8,6 Ich sage jedem dass Er lebt [97]Novalis.1772-1801. I say to all men, far and near, That He is risen again; That He is with us now and here, And ever shall remain. And what I say, let each this morn Go tell it to his friend, That soon in every place shall dawn His kingdom without end. Now first to souls who thus awake Seems earth a fatherland, A new and endless life they take With rapture from His hand. The fears of death and of the grave Are whelm'd beneath the sea, And every heart now light and brave May face the things to be. The way of darkness that He trod To Heaven at last shall come, And he who hearkens to His word Shall reach His Father's home. Now let the mourner grieve no more, Though his beloved sleep, A happier meeting shall restore Their light to eyes that weep. Now every heart each noble deed With new resolve may dare, A glorious harvest shall the seed In brighter regions bear. He lives, His presence hath not ceased, Though foes and fears be rife; And thus we hail in Easter's feast A world renew'd to life!

Easter The Resurrection from the Death of Sin.

IV.

The Resurrection from the Death of Sin. 8,6,8,6,4,4,8,8 O auferstandener Siegesfürst [99]J. H. Böhmer. 1706. O risen Lord! O conquering King! O Life of all that live! To-day that peace of Easter bring Which only Thou canst give! Once death, our foe, Had laid Thee low, Now hast Thou rent his bonds in twain, For Thou art risen who once wast slain! The power of Thy great majesty Bursts rocks and tombs away, Thy victory raises us with Thee Into the glorious day; Now Satan's might And Death's dark night Have lost their power this blessed morn And we to higher life are born. Oh that our hearts might inly know Thy victory over death, And gazing on Thy conflict glow With eager dauntless faith; Thy quenchless light, Thy glorious might Still comfortless and lonely leave The soul that cannot yet believe. Then break through our hard hearts Thy way, O Jesus, conquering King! Kindle the lamp of faith to-day, Teach our faint hearts to sing For joy at length, That in Thy strength We too may rise whom sin had slain, And Thy eternal rest attain. And when our tears for sin o'erflow, Do Thou in love draw near, The precious gift of peace bestow, Shine on us bright and clear; That so may we, O Christ, from Thee Drink in the life that cannot die, And keep true Easter feasts on high. Yes, let us truly know within Thy rising from the dead, And quit the grave of death and sin, And keep that gift, our Head, That Thou didst leave For all who cleave To Thee through all this earthly strife -- So shall we enter into life.

Easter The Walk to Emmaus.

V.

The Walk to Emmaus. 7,7,7,7 Trauernd und mit bangem Sehnen [101]L. E. S. Müller. Sad with longing, sick with fears, Toward Emmaus slowly go Two whose eyes are dim with tears, And their hearts oppress'd with wo, Of their ruin'd hopes they talk; Yet while thus they sadly walk, Jesus is not far away, And their fears shall soon allay.Ah! and still how many a heartOnward toils in silent grief,Mourning o'er its woes apart,Hopeless now of all relief;Oft it seeks to walk alone,But to weep its fill unknown;Yet my Jesus cometh now,Asking, wherefore weepest thou?Many a time I've felt indeedThat He leaves me ne'er alone,In the hour of utmost needThen Himself He maketh known;When in sorrow I consumeAs though He no more could come,Lo! I find Him more than near,Quickly with His help He's here.Truest Friend, who canst not fail me,Evermore abide with me;When the world would most assail me,Then Thy presence let me see;When its heaviest thunders roll,Shelter Thou my trembling soul,Come and in my spirit rest,I will do what seems Thee best.When I dread some coming ill,Lord, then bid me think of this,That my Saviour loves me still,And that I am surely His:More of Thy word let me learn,Till my heart within me burn,Fill'd with love, and in Thy LightLearn to know her Lord aright.Comfort those who, fill'd with gloom,Lonely on their journey go,Or within their silent roomCry to Thee from depths of wo;When they leave the world apart,There to weep out all their heart,Let them hear Thy whisper mild;Wherefore dost thou mourn, my child?When life's day hath fled by,When the night of death is near,When in vain the darken'd eyeSeeks some stay, some helper here:Then Thy followers' prayer fulfil,Then abide Thou with us still,Till Thou give us peace and restStay, O stay, Thou noble guest!

ASCENSION. To-day our Lord went up on high

[102]1. To-day our Lord went up on high

[103]2. Since Christ is gone to heaven, His home

[104]3. Conquering Prince and Lord of glory!

[105]4. My Jesus, if the seraphim

Ascension The Way opened.

I.

The Way opened. 8,6,8,6,8,8,6+4 Auf diesen Tag bedenken wir [107]J. Zwick.1538. To-day our Lord went up on high, And so our songs we raise; To Him with strong desire we cry To keep us in His grace, For we poor sinners here beneath Are dwelling still 'mid woe and death, All hope in Him we place. Hallelujah.Thank God that now the way is made!The cherub-guarded door,Through Him on whom our help was laid,Stands open evermore;Who knoweth this is glad at heart,And swift prepares him to departWhere Christ is gone before.Hallelujah.Our heavenward course begins when weHave found our Father, God,And join us to His sons, and fleeThe paths that once we trod;For He looks down, and they look up,They feel His love, they live in hope,Until they meet their Lord.Hallelujah.Then all the depths of joy that lieIn this day we shall know,When we are made like Him on high,Whom we confess below,When bathed in life's eternal floodWe dwell with Him, the highest Good:God grant us this to know!Hallelujah.

Ascension Christ's Ascension the Ground of Ours.

II.

Christ's Ascension the Ground of Ours. 8,6,8,6,8,8,6 Auf Christi Himmelfahrt [109]Josua Wegelin.1636. Since Christ is gone to heaven, His home I too must one day share; And in this hope I overcome All anguish, all despair; For where the Head is, well we know The members He hath left below In time He gathers there. Since Christ hath reach'd His glorious throneAnd mighty gifts are His,My heart can rest in heaven alone,On earth my Lord I miss,I long to be with Him on high,And heart and thoughts would hourly flyWhere now my treasure is.From Thy ascension let such grace,My Lord, be found in me,That steadfast faith may guide my waysUnfaltering up to Thee,And at Thy voice I may departWith joy to dwell where Thou, Lord, art;Oh grant this prayer to me!

Ascension The Kingdom of Christ.

III.

The Kingdom of Christ. 7,7,7,7 Siegesfürst und Ehrenkönig [111]Tersteegen.1731. Conquering Prince and Lord of glory! Majesty enthroned in light! All the heavens are bow'd before Thee, Far beyond them spreads Thy might Shall I fall not at Thy feet, And my heart with rapture beat, Now Thy glory is display'd, Thine ere yet the worlds were made?Far and wide, Thou heavenly Sun,Now Thy brightness streams abroad,And Heaven's host anew hath wonLight and gladness from its Lord;Hark, how yon unnumber'd throngWelcome Thee with joyous song:See Thy children weak and fewHere would cry Hosanna too.Of Thy cup shall I not drink,Now Thy glories o'er me shine?Shall my courage ever sink,Now I know all power is Thine?I will trust Thee, O my King,And will fear no earthly thing,Henceforth will I bow the kneeTo no ruler, save to Thee.Power and Spirit now o'erflow,On me also be they pour'd,Till Thy last and mightiest foeHath been made Thy footstool, Lord;Yea, let earth's remotest endTo Thy righteous sceptre bend,Make Thy way before Thee plain,O'er all hearts and spirits reign.Lo! Thy presence filleth nowAll Thy Church in every place,To my heart, oh enter Thou,See it thirsteth for Thy grace;Come, Thou King of glory, come,Deign to make my heart Thy home,There abide and rule alone,As upon Thy heavenly throne!Parting, dost Thou bring Thy life,God and heaven, most inly near:Let me rise o'er earthly strife,As though still I saw Thee here,And my heart transplanted hence,Strange to earth and time and sense,Dwell with Thee in heaven e'en now,Where our only joy art Thou!

Ascension The Throne of Grace.

IV.

The Throne of Grace. 8,8,8,8 Mein Jesu, den die Seraphinen [113]Wolfgang C. Dessler.1692. My Jesus, if the seraphim, The burning host that near Thee stand, Before Thy Majesty are dim, And veil their face at Thy command; How shall these mortal eyes of mine, Now dark with evil's hateful night, Endure to gaze upon the light That aye surrounds that throne of Thine? Yet grant the eye of faith, O Lord, To pierce within the Holy Place, For I am saved and Thou adored, If I am quicken'd by Thy grace. Behold, O King, before Thy throne My soul in lowly love doth bend, Oh show Thyself her gracious Friend, And say, "I choose thee for mine own." Have mercy, Lord of love, for long My spirit for Thy mercy sighs, My inmost soul hath found a tongue, "Be merciful, O God," she cries! I know Thou wilt not bid me go, Thou canst not be ungracious, Lord, To one for whom Thy blood was pour'd, Whose guilt was cancell'd by Thy woe. Here in Thy gracious hands I fall, To Thee I cling with faith's embrace, O righteous Sovereign, hear my call, And turn, O turn, to me in grace! For through Thy sorrows I am just, And guilt no more in me is found, Thus reconciled, my soul is bound To Thee in endless love and trust. And let Thy wisdom be my guide, Nor take Thy light from me away, Thy grace be ever at my side, That from the path I may not stray Which Thou dost love, but evermore In steadfast faith my course fulfil, And keep Thy word, and do Thy will, Thy love within, Thy heaven before! Reach down and arm me with Thy hand, And strengthen me with inner might, That I through faith may strive and stand Though craft and force against me fight: So shall the kingdom of Thy love Be through me and within me spread, That honours Thee, our glorious Head, And crowneth us in realms above. Yes, yes, to Thee my soul would cleave, O choose it, Saviour, for Thy throne! Couldst Thou in love to me once leave The glory that was all Thine own, So honour Thou my life and heart That Thou mayst find a heaven in me, And when this house decay'd shall be, Then grant the heaven where now Thou art. To Thee I rise in faith on high, O bend Thou down in love to me! Let nothing rob me of this joy, That all my soul is fill'd with Thee; As long as I have life and breath, Thee will I honour, fear, and love, And when this heart hath ceased to move, Yet Love shall live and conquer death.

WHITSUNTIDE. Holy Spirit, once again

[114]1. Holy Spirit, once again

[115]2. Sweetest joy the soul can know

[116]3. The Church of Christ that He hath hallow'd here [117]4. Hark, the Church proclaims her honour

[118]5. Spread, oh spread, thou mighty Word

Whitsuntide The Work of the Holy Spirit.

I.

The Work of the Holy Spirit. 7,7,7,7,7,7 Komm o komm, du Geist des Lebens [120]Anon. Holy Spirit, once again Come, Thou true Eternal God! Nor Thy power descend in vain, Make us ever Thine abode; So shall Spirit, joy, and light Dwell in us, where all was night. Pour into our heart and mind Wisdom, counsel, truth, and love; That we be to nought inclined, Save what Thou mayst well approve; Let Thy knowledge spread and grow, Working error's overthrow. Guide us, Lord, from day to day, Keep us in the paths of grace, Clear all hindrances away That might foil us in the race; When we stumble hear our call, Work repentance for our fall. Witness in our hearts that God Counts us children through His Son, That our Father's gentle rod Smites us for our good alone, So when tried, perplex'd, distrest, In His love we still may rest. Quicken us to seek His face Freely, with a trusting heart, In our prayers O breathe Thy grace, Go with us when we depart, So shall our requests be heard, And our faith to joy be stirr'd. And whene'er a yearning strong Presses out the bitter cry, "Ah my God, how long, how long?" Then O let me find Thee nigh, And Thy words of healing balm Bring me courage, patience, calm. Spirit Thou of strength and power, Thou new Spirit God hath given, Aid us in temptation's hour, Train and perfect us for heaven, Arm us in the battle-field, Leave us never there to yield. Lord, preserve us in the faith, Suffer nought to drive us thence, Neither Satan, scorn, nor death, Be our God and our defence, Though the flesh resist Thy will, Let Thy word be stronger still. And at last when we must die, Oh assure the sinking heart Of the glorious realm on high Where Thou healest every smart, Of the joys unspeakable Where our God would have us dwell.

Whitsuntide The Spirit of Wisdom, Love, and Joy.

II.

The Spirit of Wisdom, Love, and Joy. 7,7,7,7 O du allersüsste Freude [122]Paul Gerhardt.1653.
Sweetest joy the soul can know, Fairest Light was ever shed, Who alike in joy or woe, Leavest none unvisited; Spirit of the Highest God, Lord from whom is life bestow'd, Who upholdest everything, Hear me, hear me, while I sing!For the noblest gift Thou artThat a soul e'er sought or won,Have I wish'd Thee to my heart,Then my wishing all is done;Ah then yield Thee, nor refuseHere to dwell, for Thou didst chooseThis my heart, from e'en its birth,For Thy temple here on earth.Thou art shed like gentlest showersFrom the Father and the Son,Bringest to this earth of oursPurest blessing from their throne;Suffer then, O noble Guest,That rich gift by Thee possesst,Which Thou givest at Thy willAll my soul and flesh to fill.Thou art wise, before Thee standHidden things unveil'd to Thee,Countest up the grains of sand,Fathomest the deepest sea,And Thou knowest well how blind,Dark and crooked is my mind;Give me wisdom, in Thy lightLet me please my God aright.Thou art holy, enterest inWhere pure hearts Thy coming wait,But Thou fleest shame and sin,Craft and falsehood Thou dost hate;Wash me then, O Well of grace,Every stain and spot efface,Let me flee what Thou dost flee,Grant me what Thou lov'st to see.Thou art loving, hatest strife,As a lamb of patient mood,Calm through all our restless life,E'en to sinners kind and good;Grant me too this noble mind,To be calm and true and kind,Loving every friend or foe,Grieving none whom Thou dost know.Well contented is my heart,If but Thou reject me not;If but Thou wilt ne'er depart,I am blest whate'er my lot;Thine for ever make me now,And to Thee, my Lord, I vowHere and yonder to employEvery power for Thee with joy.Be my help when danger's nigh,When I sink hold Thou me up,Be my life when I must die,In the grave be Thou my hope;Bring me when I rise againTo the land that knows no pain,Where Thy followers from Thy streamDrink for ever joys supreme.

Whitsuntide The unity of the Spirit.

III.

The unity of the Spirit. 10,10,10,10 Die Kirche Christi die Er geweiht [124]A. G. Spangenberg.1747. The Church of Christ that He hath hallow'd here To be His house, is scatter'd far and near, In North and South and East and West abroad, And yet in earth and heaven, through Christ her Lord, The Church is one. One member knoweth not another here, And yet their fellowship is true and near, One is their Saviour, and their Father one, One Spirit rules them, and among them none Lives to himself. They live to Him who bought them with His blood, Baptized them with His Spirit pure and good, And in true faith and ever-burning love Their hearts and hope ascend to seek above The eternal Good. O Spirit of the Lord, all life is Thine, Now fill Thy Church with life and power divine, That many children may be born to Thee And spread Thy knowledge like the boundless sea, To God's great praise.

Whitsuntide The Strength of the Church.

IV.

The Strength of the Church. 8,7,8,7 Diess ist der Gemeinde Stärke [126]S. Preiswerk. Hark, the Church proclaims her honour And her strength is only this: God hath laid His choice upon her, And the work she doth is His. He His Church hath firmly founded, He will guard what He began; We, by sin and foes surrounded, Build her bulwarks as we can. Frail and fleeting are our powers, Short our days, our foresight dim, And we own the choice not ours, We were chosen first by Him. Onward then! for nought despairing, Calm we follow at His word, Thus through joy and sorrow bearing Faithful witness to our Lord. Though we here must strive with weakness, Though in tears we often bend, What His might began in meekness Shall achieve a glorious end.

Whitsuntide The Diffusion of the Gospel.

V.

The Diffusion of the Gospel. 7,7,7,7 Walte walte nah und fern [128]Bahnmaier. Spread, oh spread, thou mighty Word, Spread the kingdom of the Lord, Wheresoe'er His breath has given Life to beings meant for heaven. Tell them how the Father's will Made the world, and keeps it still, How He sent His Son to save All who help and comfort crave. Tell of our Redeemer's love, Who for ever doth remove By His holy sacrifice, All the guilt that on us lies. Tell them of the Spirit given Now, to guide us up to heaven, Strong and holy, just and true, Working both to will and do. Word of Life! most pure and strong, Lo! for Thee the nations long; Spread, till from its dreary night All the world awakes to light. Up, the ripening fields ye see, Mighty shall the harvest be, But the reapers still are few, Great the work they have to do. Lord of harvest, let there be Joy and strength to work for Thee, Till the nations far and near See Thy Light, and learn Thy fear.

TRINITY. Thee Fount of blessing we adore!

[129]1. Thee Fount of blessing we adore!

[130]2. O Father-eye, that hath so truly watch'd

[131]3. True mirror of the Godhead! Perfect Light!

Trinity A Morning Hymn.

I.

A Morning Hymn. 8,8,8,8 Brunn alles Heils, dich ehren wir [133]Tersteegen.1731. Thee Fount of blessing we adore! Lo! we unlock our lips before Thy Godhead's deep of holiness, Oh deign to hear us now and bless. The Lord, the Maker, with us dwell, In soul and body shield us well, And guard us with His sleepless might From every ill by day and night!The Lord, the Saviour, Light Divine,Now cause His face on us to shine,That seeing Him, with perfect faithWe trust His love for life and death!The Lord, the Comforter, be near,Imprint His image deeply here,From bonds of sin and dread release,And give us His unchanging peace!O Triune God! Thou vast abyss!Thou ever-flowing Fount of bliss,Flow through us, heart and soul and willWith endless praise and blessing fill!

Trinity Our Father, Redeemer, Guide.

II.

Our Father, Redeemer, Guide. 10,10,10,10 O Vaterhand die mich so treu geführet [135]Spitta. O Father-eye, that hath so truly watch'd, O Father-hand, that hath so gently led, O Father-heart, that by my prayer is touch'd, That loved me first when I was cold and dead: Still do Thou lead me on with faithful care The narrow path to heaven where I would go, And train me for the life that waits me there, Alike through love and loss, through weal and wo.O my Redeemer, who for me wast slain,Who bringest me forgiveness and release,Whose death has ransom'd me to God again,That now my heart can rest in perfect peace;Still more and more do Thou my soul redeem,From every bondage set me wholly free,Though Evil oft the mightiest power may seem,Still make me more than conqueror, Lord, in Thee.O Holy Spirit, who with gentlest breathDost teach to pray, dost comfort or reprove,Who givest us all joy and hope and faith,Through whom we live at peace with God in love;Still do Thou shed Thine influence abroad,Let me the Father's image ever wear,Make me a holy temple of my God,Where dwells for ever calm adoring prayer!

Trinity An Evening Hymn.

III.

An Evening Hymn. 10,10,10,10 Dreieinigheit, der Gottheit wahrer Spiegel [137]J. Franck.1653.
True mirror of the Godhead! Perfect Light! Thou Three in One, whose never-slumbering might
Enfolds the world within its sheltering wings, And holds in being all created things! We praise Thee
with the earliest morning ray, We praise Thee with the parting beam of day; All things that live and
move, by sea and land, For ever ready at Thy service stand.Exhaustless Treasure! Being
limitless!What gaze hath ever pierced Thy deep abyss?Deep Fount of Life! Light inaccessible!How
great Thy power, O God, what tongue can tell?Thy Christendom is singing night and day,"Glory to
Him, the mighty God, for aye,By Whom, through Whom, in Whom all beings are!"Grant us to echo
on this song afar!Thy Name is great, Thy kingdom in us dwell,Thy will constrain and feed and
guide us well;Spare us, redeem us in the evil hour,For Thine the glory, Thine the rule, the power.

Services.

[138]Morning Prayer

[139]Evening Prayer

[140]Baptism

[141]The Holy Communion

[142]For Travellers

[143]At the Burial of the Dead

MORNING PRAYER. See also from Lyra Germanica: The Christian Year, Morning Hymns.

[144]1. Light of light enlighten me

[145]2. Blessed Jesus, at Thy word

[146]3. Once more the day-light shines abroad

[147]4. When anguish'd and perplexed, with many a sigh and tear [148]5. O Thou Most Highest!
Guardian of mankind!

[149]6. As a bird in meadows fair

[150]7. The golden morn flames up the Eastern sky

See also from Lyra Germanica: The Christian Year, [151]Morning Hymns.

Morning Prayer For The Sabbath Morning.

I.

For The Sabbath Morning. 7,8,7,8,7,7 Licht von Licht erleuchte mich [153]B. Schmolck.1731. Light of light enlighten me Now anew the day is dawning; Sun of grace, the shadows flee, Brighten Thou my Sabbath morning, With Thy joyous sunshine blest Happy is my day of rest! Fount of all our joy and peace, To Thy living waters lead me,Thou from earth my soul releaseAnd with grace and mercy feed me;Bless Thy word that it may proveRich in fruits that Thou dost love.Kindle Thou the sacrificeThat upon my lips is lying;Clear the shadows from mine eyesThat, from every error flying,No strange fire may in me glowThat Thine altar doth not know.Let me with my heart to-day,Holy, Holy, Holy, singing,Rapt awhile from earth away,All my soul to Thee upspringing,Have a foretaste inly givenHow they worship Thee in Heaven.Rest in me and I in Thee,Build a Paradise within me;Oh reveal Thyself to me,Blessèd Love, who diedst to win me;Fed from Thine exhaustless urnPure and bright my lamp shall burn.Hence all care, all vanity,For the day to God is holy;Come Thou glorious MajestyDeign to fill this temple lowly,Nought to-day my soul shall moveSimply resting in Thy love.

Morning Prayer Before Public Worship.

II.

Before Public Worship. 7,8,7,8,8,8 Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier [155]T. Clausnitzer.1671. Blessed Jesus, at Thy word We are gather'd all to hear Thee; Let our hearts and souls be stirr'd Now to seek and love and fear Thee; By Thy teachings sweet and holy Drawn from earth to love Thee solely. All our knowledge, sense, and sight Lie in deepest darkness shrouded, Till Thy Spirit breaks our night With the beams of truth unclouded; Thou alone to God canst win us, Thou must work all good within us. Glorious Lord, Thyself impart! Light of light from God proceeding, Open Thou our ears and heart, Help us by Thy Spirit's pleading, Hear the cry Thy people raises, Hear, and bless our prayers and praises!

Morning Prayer In Time of War and Persecution.

III.

In Time of War and Persecution. 8,8,8,8 Es geht daher des Tages Schein [157]Bohemian Brethren. Once more the day-light shines abroad, O Brethren let us praise the Lord, Whose grace and mercy thus have kept The nightly watch while we have slept. To Him let us together pray With all our heart and soul to-day, That He would keep us in His love, And all our guilt and sin remove. Eternal God! Almighty Friend, Whose deep compassions have no end, Whose never-failing strength and might Have kept us safely through the night: Now send us from Thy heavenly throne Thy grace and help through Christ Thy Son, That with Thy strength our hearts may glow, And fear nor man nor ghostly foe. Ah Lord God! hear us we implore! Be Thou our Guardian evermore, Our mighty Champion and our shield That goeth with us to the field. We offer up ourselves to Thee, That heart and word and deed may be In all things guided by Thy mind, And in Thine eyes acceptance find. Thus, Lord, we bring through Christ Thy Son Our morning offering to Thy throne; Now be Thy precious gift outpour'd, And help us for Thine honour, Lord!

Morning Prayer In Time of Distress.

IV.

In Time of Distress. WRITTEN DURING THE THIRTY YEARS' WAR. 12,14,6,14 Wenn ich in Angst und Noth [159]M. A. von Löwenstern. When anguish'd and perplexed, with many a sigh and tear I lift mine eyes up to the hills, and pour out all my woe, Thou bendest down Thine ear, And never from Thy face, dear Lord, uncomforted I go. My help and my defence come, faithful God, from Thee, By Whom the heavens were fixed, and earth's foundations laid; Man cannot succour me, Before Thy throne alone I find my refuge and my aid. Thou watchest that my foot should neither slip nor stray, Thou guidest me Thyself through all my dark and troubled course, Thou pointest me the way Amid the snares of sin and death, and this world's craft and force. Guardian of Israel! Thou dost slumber not, nor sleep, Thine eye is open day and night, still watching over those Who true allegiance keep To Jesus' banner of the Cross, and bravely meet His foes. And when Thou bidd'st me leave this world of strife and pain, Grant me in Thee a steadfast hope, and gentle quick release, Knowing we rise again To dwell where death and war are not, in endless joy and peace.

Morning Prayer The Christian's Morning Sacrifice.

V.

The Christian's Morning Sacrifice. 10,8,8,10,4 O allerhöchster Menschenhüter [161]Joachim Neander.1679. O Thou Most Highest! Guardian of mankind! Supreme exhaustless Good Thou art! To Thee I offer soul and heart: Praise Him all creatures with your strength and mind, For He is kind! Yes, Lord, 'tis of Thy power alone to-day That still I draw my living breath, Thy grace preserves me still from death,O Father-heart, reject me not, but stayWith me to-day.O Israel's God, I bring Thee now my will,That would be Thine whate'er it cost,Love Thy good gifts, yet love Thee most;This is my prayer while yet the morn is still,Take Thou my will.O Fount of grace, in love be Thou my guide,Thine eye look down on me in power,Whate'er I do or am each hourPrepare me for th' eternal life, abideStill at my side.The soul and body Thou dost hold in life,Be ever ready in Thy fearTo fight for truth and justice here,And trusting Thee to meet the final strife,For Thou art Life.Bless all my works and ways, my light increase,Order my doings for the best,In all my toil be Thou my rest,Until at last I lay me down in peaceThat ne'er shall cease.

Morning Prayer A Morning Song of Gladness.

VI.

A Morning Song of Gladness. 7,7,7,7 Wie ein Vogel lieblich singet [163]Anon. About 1580 As a bird in meadows fair Or in lonely forest sings, Till it fills the summer air And the greenwood sweetly rings, So my heart to Thee would raise, O my God, its song of praise, That the gloom of night is o'er And I see the sun once more.If Thou, Sun of Love, arise,All my heart with joy is stirr'd,And to greet Thee upward fliesGladsome as yon little bird.Shine Thou in me clear and brightTill I learn to praise Thee right;Guide me in the narrow way,Let me ne'er in darkness stray.Bless to-day whate'er I do,Bless whate'er I have and love;From the paths of virtue trueLet me never, never rove;By Thy Spirit strengthen meIn the faith that leads to Thee,Then an heir of life on highFearless I may live and die.

Morning Prayer A Morning Prayer.

VII.

A Morning Prayer. 10,10,10,10,10,10 Im Osten flammt empor die goldene Sonne [165]Spitta The golden morn flames up the Eastern sky, And what dark night had hid from every eye All-piercing day-light summons clear to view: And all the forests, vale or plain or hill, That slept in mist enshrouded, dark and still, In gladsome light are glittering now anew. Shine in my heart, and bring me joy and light, Sun of my darken'd soul, dispel its night,And shed in it the truthful day abroad;And all the many gloomy folds lay bareWithin this heart, that fain would learn to wearThe pure and glorious likeness of its Lord.Glad with Thy light, and glowing with Thy love,So let me ever speak and think and moveAs fits a soul new-touch'd with life from Heaven,That seeks but so to order all her courseAs most to show the glory of that SourceBy whom alone her strength, her life are given.I ask not, take away this weight of care;No, for that love I pray that all can bear,And for the faith that whatsoe'er befallMust needs be good, and for my profit prove,Since from my Father's heart most rich in love,And from His bounteous hands it cometh all.I ask not that my course be calm and still;No, here too, Lord, be done Thy holy will;I ask but for a quiet childlike heart;Though thronging cares and restless toil be mine,Yet may my heart remain for ever Thine,Draw it from earth, and fix it where Thou art.I ask Thee not to finish soon the strife,The toil, the trouble of this earthly life;No, be my peace amid its grief and pain;I pray not, grant me now Thy realm on high;No, ere I die let me to evil die,And through Thy cross my sins be wholly slain.True Morning Sun of all my life, I prayThat not in vain Thou shine on me to-day,Be Thou my light when all around is gloom;Thy brightness, hope, and courage on me shed,That I may joy to see when life is fledThe setting sun that brings the pilgrim home.

**EVENING PRAYER. See also Lyra Germanica: The Christian Year,
Evening Hymns.**

[166]1. The night is come, wherein at last we rest [167]2. Sink not yet, my soul, to slumber

[168]3. Lord, a whole long day of pain

[169]4. Now darkness over all is spread

[170]5. Abide among us with Thy grace

See also Lyra Germanica: The Christian Year, [171]Evening Hymns.

Evening Prayer Trust in God.

I.

Trust in God. 10,10,10,4 Die Nacht ist kommen darin wir ruhen [173]Bohemian Brethren. The night is come, wherein at last we rest, God order this and all things for the best! Beneath His blessing fearless we may lie Since He is nigh. Drive evil thoughts and spirits far away, Master, watch o'er us till the dawning day, Body and soul alike from harm defend, Thine angel send. Let holy prayers and thoughts our latest be, Let us awake with joy, still close to Thee, In all serve Thee, in every deed and thought Thy praise be sought. Give to the sick as Thy beloved sleep, And help the captive, comfort those who weep, Care for the widows' and the orphans' woe, Keep far our foe. For we have none on whom for help to call, Save Thee, O God in heaven, who car'st for all, And wilt forsake them never, day or night, Who love Thee right. Father, Thy Name be praised, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be wrought as in our heavenly home, Keep us in life, forgive our sins, deliver Us now and ever! Amen.

Evening Prayer An Evening Thanksgiving.

II.

An Evening Thanksgiving. 8,7,8,7,7,7,8,8 Werde munter rnein Gemüthe [175]J. Rist.1642. Sink not yet, my soul, to slumber, Wake, my heart, go forth and tell All the mercies without number That this by-gone day befell; Tell how God hath kept afar All things that against me war, Hath upheld me and defended, And His grace my soul befriended.Father merciful and holy,Thee to-night I praise and bless,Who to labour true and lowlyGrantest ever meet success;Many a sin and many a woe,Many a fierce and subtle foeHast Thou check'd that once alarm'd me,So that nought to-day has harm'd me.Yes, our wisdom vainly ponders,Fathoms not Thy loving thought;Never tongue can tell the wondersThat each day for us are wrought;Thou hast guided me to-dayThat no ill hath cross'd my way,There is neither bound nor measureIn Thy love's o'erflowing treasure.Now the light, that nature gladdens,And the pomp of day is gone,And my heart is tired and saddensAs the gloomy night comes on;Ah then, with Thy changeless lightWarm and cheer my heart to-night,As the shadows round me gatherKeep me close to Thee, my Father.Of Thy grace I pray Thee pardonAll my sins, and heal their smart;Sore and heavy is their burden,Sharp their sting within my heart;And my foe lays many a snareBut to tempt me to despair,Only Thou, dear Lord, canst save me,Let him not prevail to have me.Have I e'er from Thee departed,Now I seek Thy face again,And Thy Son, the loving-hearted,Made our peace through bitter pain.Yes, far greater than our sin,Though it still be strong within,Is the Love that fails us never,Mercy that endures for ever.Brightness of the eternal city!Light of every faithful soul!Safe beneath Thy sheltering pityLet the tempests past me roll;Now it darkens far and near,Still, my God, still be Thou here;Thou canst comfort, and Thou only,When the night is long and lonely.When the twilight now hath vanish'd,Send Thy blessing on my sleep,Every sin and terror banish'd,Let my rest be calm and deep.Soul and body, mind and health,Wife and children, house and wealth,Friend and foe, the sick, the stranger,Keep Thou safe from harm and danger.Keep me safe till morn is breaking,Nightly terrors drive Thou hence,Let not sickness keep me waking;Sudden death and pestilence,Fire and water, noise of war,Keep Thou from my house afar;Let me die not unrepented,That my soul be not tormented.O Thou mighty God, now hearkenTo the prayer Thy child hath made;Jesus, while the night-hours darkenBe Thou still my hope, my aid;Holy Ghost, on Thee I call,Friend and Comforter of all,Hear my earnest prayer, oh hear me!Lord, Thou hearest, Thou art near me.

Evening Prayer In Sickness.

III.

In Sickness. 7,5,7,5 Herr, ein ganzer Leidenstag [177]Heinrich Puchta. Lord, a whole long day of pain Now at last is o'er! Ah how much we can sustain I have felt once more; Felt how frail are all our powers, And how weak our trust; If Thou help not, these dark hours Crush us to the dust. Could I face the coming night If Thou wert not near? Nay, without Thy love and might I must sink with fear: Round me falls the evening gloom, Sights and sounds all cease, But within this narrow room Night will bring no peace. Other weary eyes may close, All things seek their sleep, Hither comes no soft repose, I must wake and weep. Come then, Jesus, o'er me bend, Give me strength to cope With my pains, and gently send Thoughts of peace and hope. Draw my weary heart away From this gloom and strife, And these fever pains allay With the dew of life; Thou canst calm the troubled mind, Thou its dread canst still, Teach me to be all resign'd To my Father's will. Then if I must wake and weep All the long night through, Thou the watch with me wilt keep, Friend and Guardian true; In the darkness Thou wilt speak Lovingly with me, Though my heart may vainly seek Words to breathe to Thee. Wheresoe'er my couch is made In Thy hands I lie, And to Thee alone for aid Turns my restless eye; Let my prayer grow weary never, Strengthen Thou th' oppress'd, In Thy shadow, Lord, for ever Let me gently rest.

Evening Prayer For a Wakeful Night.

IV.

For a Wakeful Night. 8,6,8,6 Es ruht die Nacht auf Erden [179]Pastor Josephsen. Now darkness over all is spread, No sounds the stillness break, Ah when shall these sad hours be fled, Am I alone awake? Ah no, I do not wake alone, Alone I do not sleep, Around me ever watcheth One Who wakes with those that weep. On earth it is so dark and drear, With Him so calm and bright, The stars in solemn radiance clear Shine there through all our night. 'Tis when the lights of earth are gone The heavenly glories shine; When other comfort I have none, Thy comfort, Lord, is mine. Be still, my throbbing heart, be still, Cast off thy weary load, And make His holy will thy will, And rest upon thy God. How many a time the night hath come, Yet still return'd the day; How many a time thy cross, thy gloom, Ere now hath pass'd away. And these dark hours of anxious pain That now oppress thee sore, I know will vanish soon again, Then I shall fear no more: For when the night hath lasted long, We know the morn is near, And when the trial's sharp and strong Our Help shall soon appear.

Evening Prayer At the Close of the Sabbath.

V.

At the Close of the Sabbath. 8,6,8,6 Ach bleib mit deiner Gnade [181]Stegmann.1630. Abide among us with Thy grace, Lord Jesus, evermore, Nor let us e'er to sin give place, Nor grieve Him we adore. Abide among us with Thy word, Redeemer whom we love, Thy help and mercy here afford, And life with Thee above. Abide among us with Thy ray, O Light that lighten'st all, And let Thy truth preserve our way, Nor suffer us to fall. Abide with us to bless us still, O bounteous Lord of peace; With grace and power our spirits fill, Our faith and love increase. Abide among us as our shield, O Captain of Thy host; That to the world we may not yield, Nor e'er forsake our post. Abide with us in faithful love, Our God and Saviour be, Thy help at need, oh let us prove, And keep us true to Thee.

BAPTISM.

[182]1. Blessed Jesus, here we stand

[183]2. O Father-heart, who hast created all

[184]3. Thy parents' arms now yield thee

[185]4. Seeing I am Jesus' lamb

[186]5. I am baptized into Thy name

Baptism The Command.

I.

The Command. 7,8,7,8,8,8 Liebster Jesu hier sind wir [188]Schmolck.1672-1737. Blessed Jesus, here we stand, Met to do as Thou hast spoken, And this child at Thy command Now we bring to Thee, in token That to Christ it here is given, For of such shall be His Heaven. Yes, Thy warning voice is plain, And we fain would keep it duly, "He who is not born again, Heart and life renewing truly, Born of water and the Spirit, Will My kingdom ne'er inherit." Therefore hasten we to Thee, Take the pledge we bring, oh take it! Let us here Thy glory see, And in tender pity make it Now Thy child, and leave it never, Thine on earth, and Thine for ever. Turn the darkness into light, To Thy grace receive and save it; Heal the serpent's venom'd bite, In the font where now we lave it; Let Thy Spirit pure and lowly Banish thought or taint unholy. Make it, Head, Thy member now, Sheperd, take Thy lamb, and feed it, Prince of Peace, its peace be Thou, Way of life, to Heaven oh lead it, Vine, this branch may nothing sever, Grafted firm in Thee for ever. Now upon Thy heart it lies, What our hearts so dearly treasure, Heavenward lead our burden'd sighs, Pour Thy blessing without measure, Write the name we now have given, Write it in the book of Heaven.

Baptism The Name.

II.

The Name. 10,6,10,6,8,8,4 O Vaterherz das Erd und Himmel chuf [190]A. Knapp. O Father-heart, who hast created all In wisest love, we pray Look on this babe, who at Thy gracious call Is entering on life's way, Bend o'er it now with blessing fraught, And make Thou something out of nought, O Father-heart! O Son of God, who diedst for us, behold We bring our child to Thee, Thou tender Shepherd take it to Thy fold, Thine own for aye to be; Defend it through this earthly strife, And lead it on the path of life, O Son of God! O Holy Ghost, who broodest o'er the wave, Descend upon this child; Give it undying life, its spirit lave With waters undefiled; Grant it while yet a babe to be A child of God, a home for Thee, O Holy Ghost! O Triune God, what Thou command'st is done, We speak, but Thine the might: This child hath scarce yet seen our earthly sun, Yet pour on it Thy light, In faith and hope, in joy and love, Thou Sun of all below, above, O Triune God!

Baptism The Blessing.

III.

The Blessing. 7,6,7,6 Aus deiner Eltern Armen [192]Albert Knapp. Thy parents' arms now yield thee, With love all glowing warm, To Him who best can shield thee, To that Eternal Arm That all the heavens upholdeth, And bids the dead arise, That tender babes enfoldeth And leads them toward the skies. Wash'd in the blood that gushes From out His wounded heart, Wrapp'd in the peace that hushes All earthly grief and smart, Go forth upon thy journey, Grow up in strength and age, And seek with joy and wisdom Thy holy heritage. Oh sweet will sound the voices That hail thee from above, Where heaven's bright host rejoices Before the Eternal Love; "Now canst thou wander never, Now past is all thy strife, Oh bless the hour for ever That call'd thee into life."

Baptism For a Christian Child.

IV.

For a Christian Child. 7,7,7,7,7,7 Weil ich Jesu Schäflein bin [194]Luise H. von Hayn.1724-1782.
Seeing I am Jesus' lamb, Ever glad at heart I am O'er my Shepherd kind and good, Who provides
me daily food, And His lamb by name doth call, For He knows and loves us all. Guided by His
gentle staff Where the sunny pastures laugh,I go in and out and feed,Lacking nothing that I
need;When I thirst my feet He bringsTo the fresh and living springs.Must I not rejoice for this?He is
mine, and I am His,And when these bright days are past,Safely in His arms at lastHe will bear me
home to heaven;Ah what joy hath Jesus given!

Baptism Renewal of the Vow.

V.

Renewal of the Vow. 8,8,8,8,8,8 Ich bin getauft auf deinen Namen [196]Rambach.1720. I am baptized into Thy name, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Among Thy seed a place I claim, Among Thy consecrated host; Buried with Christ, and dead to sin, Thy Spirit now shall live within. My loving Father, here dost Thou Proclaim me as Thy child and heir;Thou faithful Saviour bidd'st me nowThe fruit of all Thy sorrows share;Thou Holy Ghost wilt comfort meWhen darkest clouds around I see.And I have promised fear and love,And to obey Thee, Lord, alone;I felt Thy Spirit in me move,And dared to pledge myself Thine own,Renouncing sin to keep the faith,And war with evil to the death.My faithful God, upon Thy sideThis covenant standeth fast for aye,If I tranfgress through fear or pride,O cast me therefore not away,If I have sore my soul defiled,Yet still forgive, restore Thy child.I bring Thee here, my God, anewOf all I am or have the whole,Quicken my life, and make me true,Take full possession of my soul,Let nought within me, nought I own,Serve any will but Thine alone.Hence Prince of darkness, hence my foe!Another Lord hath purchased me!My conscience tells of sin, yet know,Baptized in Christ I fear not thee!Away vain World, Sin, leave me now,I turn from you; God hears my vow.And never let me waver more,O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,Till at Thy will this life is o'erStill keep me in Thy faithful host,So unto Thee I live and dieAnd praise Thee evermore on high.

THE HOLY COMMUNION. Blessed Jesus, here we stand

[197]1. Lord Jesus Christ, my faithful Shepherd, hear! [198]2. Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness

[199]3. O Love, who formedst me to wear

[200]4. Now take my heart and all that is in me

[201]5. Jesus whom Thy Church doth own

[202]6. Oh how could I forget Him

[203]7. O Living Bread from Heaven

The Holy Communion The Preparation.

I.

The Preparation. 10,9,10,7,5,8,8,8,8,5 Herr Jesu Christe mein getreuer Hirte [205]Johann Heermann.1630. Lord Jesus Christ, my faithful Shepherd, hear! Feed me with Thy grace, draw inly near. By Thee redeem'd, in Thee alone I live, All I need 'tis Thou canst give: Kyrie Eleison! Ah Lord, Thy timid sheep now feed With joy upon Thy heavenly mead, Lead us to the crystal riverWhence our life is flowing ever:Kyrie Eleison!For Thou art calling all the toil-oppress'd,All the weary to Thy rest;The pardon of their sins is here bestow'd,Thou dost free them from their load:Kyrie Eleison!Ah come, Thyself put forth Thine hand,Unbind this heavy iron band,Set me from my sorrows free,Give me strength to follow Thee:Kyrie Eleison!Thou fain wouldst heart and soul to Thee incline,Take me from myself and make me Thine;Thou art the Vine and I the branch, oh grantI may grow in Thee a living plant:Kyrie Eleison!For nought but sins I find in me,Yet are they done away in Thee;Mine are anguish, fear, unrest,But in Thee, Lord, I am blest:Kyrie Eleison!

The Holy Communion The Thanksgiving.

II.

The Thanksgiving. 8,8,8,8,7,7,7,7 Schmücke dich o liebe Seele [207]J. Frank.1653. Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness, Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness, Come into the daylight's splendour, There with joy thy praises render Unto Him, whose boundless grace Grants thee at His feast a place; He whom all the heavens obey Deigns to dwell in thee to-day.Hasten as a bride to meet Him,And with loving reverence greet Him,Who with words of life immortalNow is knocking at thy portal;Haste to make for Him a way,Cast thee at His feet, and say:Since, O Lord, Thou com'st to me,Never will I turn from Thee.Ah how hungers all my spirit,For the love I do not merit!Ah how oft with sighs fast throngingFor this food have I been longing!How have thirsted in the strifeFor this draught, O Prince of Life,Wish'd, O Friend of man, to beEver one with God through Thee!Here I sink before Thee lowly,Fill'd with joy most deep and holy,As with trembling awe and wonderOn Thy mighty works I ponder;On this banquet's mystery,On the depths we cannot see;Far beyond all mortal sightLie the secrets of Thy might.Sun, who all my life dost brighten,Light, who dost my soul enlighten,Joy, the sweetest man e'er knoweth,Fount, whence all my being floweth,Here I fall before Thy feet,Grant me worthily to eatOf this blessed heavenly food,To Thy praise, and to my good.Jesus, Bread of Life from Heaven,Never be Thou vainly given,Nor I to my hurt invited;Be Thy love with love requited;Let me learn its depths indeed,While on Thee my soul doth feed;Let me here so richly blest,Be hereafter too Thy guest.

The Holy Communion The exceeding great Love of our Master and only Saviour Jesus Christ.

III.

The exceeding great Love of our Master and only Saviour Jesus Christ. 8,8,8,8,8 Liebe die du mich so milde [209]Angelus.1657. O Love, who formedst me to wear The image of Thy Godhead here; Who soughtest me with tender care Through all my wanderings wild and drear; O Love, I give myself to Thee, Thine ever, only Thine to be. O Love, who ere life's earliest dawn On me Thy choice hast gently laid; O Love, who here as man wast born And like to us in all things made; O Love, I give myself to Thee, Thine ever, only Thine to be. O Love, who once in Time wast slain, Pierced through and through with bitter woe; O Love, who wrestling thus didst gain That we eternal joy might know; O Love, I give myself to Thee, Thine ever, only Thine to be. O Love, of whom is truth and light, The Word and Spirit, life and power, Whose heart was bared to them that smite, To shield us in our trial hour; O Love, I give myself to Thee, Thine ever, only Thine to be. O Love, who thus hast bound me fast, Beneath that gentle yoke of Thine; Love, who hast conquer'd me at last And rapt away this heart of mine; O Love, I give myself to Thee, Thine ever, only Thine to be. Love, who lovest me for aye, Who for my soul dost ever plead; O Love, who didst my ransom pay, Whose power sufficeth in my stead, O Love, I give myself to Thee, Thine ever, only Thine to be. O Love, who once shalt bid me rise From out this dying life of ours; O Love, who once above yon skies Shalt set me in the fadeless bowers: O Love, I give myself to Thee, Thine ever, only Thine to be.

The Holy Communion The Christian Sacrifice.

IV.

The Christian Sacrifice. 10,10,4,6,8,8 Nun nimm mein Herz und alles was ich bin [211]Angelus.1657. Now take my heart and all that is in me, My Lord beloved, take it from me to Thee; I would have Thine This soul and flesh of mine Would order thought and word and deed As Thy most holy will shall lead. Thou feedest me with heavenly bread and wine, Thou pourest through me streams of life divine; Oh noble Face, So sweet, so full of grace, I ponder as Thy cross I see, How best to give myself to Thee. Behold, through all the eternal ages, still My heart shall choose and love Thy holy will; Wouldst Thou my death, I die to Thee in faith; Wouldst Thou that I should longer live, To Thee the choice I wholly give. But Thou must also deign to be my own, To dwell in me, to make my heart Thy throne, My God indeed, My Help in time of need, My Head from whom no power can sever, The Bridegroom of my soul for ever!

The Holy Communion The Christian Fellowship.

V.

The Christian Fellowship. 7,7,7,7,7,7 Jesu der du bist alleine [213]Tersteegen.1731. Jesus whom Thy Church doth own As her Head and King alone, Bless me Thy poor member too; And Thy Spirit's influence give That to Thee henceforth I live, Daily Thou my strength renew. Let Thy living Spirit flow Through Thy members all below,With its warmth and power divine;Scatter'd far apart they dwell,Yet in every land, full well,Lord, Thou knowest who is Thine.Those who serve Thee I would serve,Never from their union swerve,Here I cry before Thy face:"Zion, God give thee good speed,Christ thy footsteps ever lead,Make thee steadfast in His ways!"Save her from the world her foe,Satan quickly overthrow,Cast him down beneath her feet;Through the Spirit slay withinLove of ease, the world, and sin,Let her find Thee only sweet.Those o'er whom Thy billows rollStrengthen Thou to leave their soulIn Thy hands, for Thou art Love;Make them through their bitter painPure from pride and sinful stain,Fix their hopes and hearts above.Unto all Thyself impart,Fashion'd after Thine own heartMake Thy children like to Thee;Humble, pure, and calm, and still,Loving, single as Thy will,And as Thou wouldst have them be.And from those I love, I pray,Turn not, Lord, Thy face away,Hear me while for them I plead;Be Thou their Eternal Friend,Unto each due blessing send,For Thou knowest all they need.Ah Lord, at this gracious hourVisit all their souls with power;Let Thy gladness in them shine;Draw them with Thy love awayFrom vain pleasures of a day,Make them wholly ever Thine.Dearly were we purchased, Lord,When Thy blood for us was pour'd;Think, O Christ, we are Thine own!Hold me, guide me, as a child,Through the battle, through the wild,Leave me nevermore alone.Till at last I meet on highWith the faithful host who cryHallelujah night and day;Pure from stain we there shall seeThee in us, and us in Thee,And be one in Thee for aye.

The Holy Communion The Remembrance.

VI.

The Remembrance. 7,6,7,6 Wie könnt ich Sein vergeffen [215]Kern. Died 1835. Oh how could I forget Him Who ne'er forgetteth me? Or tell the love that let Him Come down to set me free? I lay in darkest sadness, Till He made all things new, And still fresh love and gladness Flow from that heart so true. How could I ever leave Him Who is so kind a Friend? How could I ever grieve Him Who thus to me doth bend? Have I not seen Him dying For us on yonder tree? Do I not hear Him crying, Arise and follow Me! For ever will I love Him Who saw my hopeless plight, Who felt my sorrows move Him, And brought me life and light; Whose arm shall be around me When my last hour is come, And suffer none to wound me, Though dark the passage home. He gives me pledges holy, His body and His blood, He lifts the scorn'd, the lowly, He makes my courage good, For He will reign within me, And shed His graces there; The heaven He died to win me Can I then fail to share? In joy and sorrow ever Shine through me, Blessed Heart, Who bleeding for us never Didst shrink, from sorest smart! Whate'er I've loved or striven Or borne, I bring to Thee; Now let Thy heart and heaven Stand open, Lord, to me!

The Holy Communion After Participation.

VII.

After Participation. 7,8,7,8,7,6,7,6,8,6,8,6 Wie wohl hast du gelabet [217]Rist.1651. O Living Bread from Heaven, How richly hast Thou fed Thy guest! The gifts Thou now hast given Have fill'd my heart with joy and rest. O wondrous food of blessing, O cup that heals our woes, My heart this gift possessing In thankful song o'erflows; For while the life and strength in me Were quicken'd by this food, My soul hath gazed awhile on Thee, O highest, only Good! My Lord, Thou here hast led me Within Thy temple's holiest place, And there Thyself hast fed me With all the treasures of Thy grace; And Thou hast freely given What earth could never buy, The bread of life from heaven, That now I shall not die; And Thou hast suffer'd me in faith To drink the blessed wine That heals the soul from inner death, And makes her wholly Thine. Thou givest all I wanted, The food whose power can death destroy, And Thou hast freely granted The cup of full eternal joy; Ah Lord, I do not merit The favour Thou hast shown, And all my soul and spirit Bow down before Thy throne; Since Thou hast suffer'd me to eat The food of angels here, Nor Sin, nor foes that I can meet, Nor Death I now may fear. O Love incomprehended! That wrought in Thee, my Saviour, thus That Thou shouldst have descended From highest heaven to dwell with us! Creator, that hath brought Thee To succour such as I, Who else had vainly sought Thee! Then grant me now to die To sin, and live alone to Thee, That when this time is o'er, Thy face, O Saviour, I may see In heaven for evermore. For as a shadow passes I pass, but Thou dost still endure; I wither like the grasses, But Thou art rich, though I am poor; Oh boundless is Thy kindness, And righteous is Thy power; And I in sinful blindness Am erring hour by hour, And yet Thou comest, dost not spurn A sinner, Lord, like me! Ah how can I Thy love return, What gift have I for Thee? A heart that hath repented, And mourns for sin with bitter sighs, -- Thou, Lord, art well-contented With this my only sacrifice. I know that in my weakness Thou wilt despise me not, But grant me in Thy meekness The favour I have sought; Yes, Thou wilt deign in grace to heed The song that now I raise, For meet and right is it indeed That I should sing Thy praise. Grant what I have partaken May through Thy grace so work in me, That sin be all forsaken, And I may cleave alone to Thee, And all my soul be heedful How she Thy love may know, For this alone is needful, Thy love should in me glow; And let no beauty please mine eyes, No joy allure my heart, But what in Thee, my Saviour, lies, What Thou dost here impart. O well for me that strengthen'd With heavenly bread and wine, if here My course on earth be lengthen'd, I now may serve Thee free from fear; Away then earthly pleasure, All earthly gifts are vain, I seek a heavenly treasure, My home I long to gain, Where I shall live and praise my God, And none my peace destroy, Where all the soul is overflow'd With pure eternal joy.

FOR TRAVELLERS.

[218]1. In God's name let us on our way!

[219]2. Wherever I go, whate'er my task

[220]3. O Lord, be this our vessel now

[221]4. Thou, solemn Ocean, rollest to the strand

[222]5. Now we must leave our father-land

[223]6. On our sails all soft and sweetly

For Travellers At the Outset of any Journey.

I.

At the Outset of any Journey. 8,8,8+4 In Gottesnamen reisen wir [225]Anon. In God's name let us on our way! The Father's help and grace we pray, His love shall guard us round about From foes within and arms without. Hallelujah. And Christ, be Thou our Friend and Guide, Through all our wanderings at our side, Help us all evil to withstand That wars against Thy least command. Hallelujah. The Holy Spirit o'er us brood With all His gifts of richest good, With hope and strength when dark our road And bring us home again in God! Hallelujah.

For Travellers On a Long and Perilous Journey.

II.

On a Long and Perilous Journey. Written on a Journey to Russia and Persia, undertaken by the Author as Physician to the Embassy from Holstein. 8,8,6,8,8,6 In allen unseren Thaten [227]Paul Flemming.1631. Wherever I go, whate'er my task, The counsel of my God I ask, Who all things hath and can; Unless He give both thought and deed The utmost pains can ne'er succeed, And vain the wisest plan. For what can all my toil avail?My care, my watching all must fail,Unless my God is there;Then let Him order all for meAs He in wisdom shall decree;On Him I cast my care.For nought can come, as nought hath been,But what my Father hath foreseen,And what shall work my good;Whate'er He gives me I will take,Whate'er He chooses I will makeMy choice with thankful mood.I lean upon His mighty arm,It shields me well from every harm,All evil shall avert;If by His precepts still I liveWhate'er is useful He will give,And nought shall do me hurt.But only may He of His graceThe record of my guilt efface,And wipe out all my debt;Though I have sinn'd He will not straightPronounce His judgment, He will wait,Have patience with me yet.I travel to a distant landTo serve the post wherein I stand,Which He hath bade me fill;And He will bless me with His light,That I may serve His world aright,And make me know His will.And though through desert wilds I fare,Yet Christian friends are with me there,And Christ Himself is near;In all our dangers He will come,And He who kept me safe at home,Can keep me safely here.Yes, He will speed us on our way,And point us where to go and stay,And help us still and lead;Let us in health and safety live,And time and wind and weather give,And whatsoe'er we need.When late at night my rest I take,When early in the morn I wake,Halting or on my way,In hours of weakness or in bonds,When vex'd with fears my heart desponds,His promise is my stay.Since then my course is traced by HimI will not fear that future dim,But go to meet my doom,Well knowing nought can wait me thereToo hard for me through Him to bear;I yet shall overcome.To Him myself I wholly give,At His command I die or live,I trust His love and power:Whether to-morrow or to-dayHis summons come, I will obey,He knows the proper hour.But if it please that love most kind,And if this voice within my mindBe whispering not in vain,I yet shall praise my God ere longIn many a sweet and joyful song,In peace at home again.To those I love will He be near,With His consoling light appear,Who is my shield and theirs;And He will grant beyond our thoughtWhat they and I alike have soughtWith many tearful prayers.Then, O my soul, be ne'er afraid,On Him who thee and all things madeWith calm reliance rest;Whate'er may come, where'er we go,Our Father in the heavens must knowIn all things what is best.

For Travellers Prayers at Sea.

III.

Prayers at Sea. 8,8,8,8 O Herr lass unser Schiffein heute [229]F. Winkelmann. O Lord, be this our vessel now A worthy temple unto Thee, Though none may hear its bells but Thou And this our little company; Our church's roof, yon mighty dome, Shall ring with hymns we learnt at home, Our floor the boundless tossing wave, Our field, our path, perchance our grave. Where shall we aid and comfort find With toils and perils all around? Command, O mighty God, the wind To bear us whither we are bound, Oh bring us to our home once more From weary wanderings safe to shore; And those who follow us with prayer Keep Thou in Thy most tender care. And as the needle while we rove, To one point still is true and just, So let our hope and faith and love Be fix'd on One in whom we trust; His word is mighty still to save, He still can walk the stormiest wave, And hold His followers with His hand, For His are heaven and sea and land.

For Travellers On the Sea-Shore

IV.

On the Sea-Shore 10,10,10,4 Wie schäumt so feierlich [231]de la Motte Fouqué. Thou, solemn Ocean, rollest to the strand Laden with prayers from many a far-off land, To us thy thousand murmurs at our feet One cry repeat. Through all thy myriad tones that never cease We hear of death and love, the cross and peace, New churches bright with hope and glad with psalms, And martyrs' palms. Then on! and come whate'er our God sees fit! To yon frail wave-toss'd planks we now commit Our lives, our all, and leave our native land At His command. We take thee for our chariot, stormy Sea! Borne safely on to serve our God by thee, For thou and we alike obey His word And own Him Lord. And whether thy chill deeps become our grave, Or far away our blood shall stain thy wave, Or we shall cross with joyous songs thy foam Back to our home: Be it as He ordains whose name is Love! Whether our lot or life or death shall prove, To Life Eternal surely guides His will, And we are still.

For Travellers The Parting.

V.

The Parting. 8,8,8,8 Einst fahren wir vom Vaterland [233]Albert Knapp. Now we must leave our father-land, And wander far o'er ocean's foam; Broken is kinship's dearest band, Forsaken stands our ancient home; But One will ever with us go Through busiest day and stillest night; And heaven above, the deeps below Shrink back abash'd before His sight. Then be the issue life or death, Let Him do as it seems Him best, The messenger of Christian faith Looks not in this world for his rest. If but His hand still hold us fast, His presence hourly fold us round, The anchor of our souls is cast Firm in the One eternal ground. The voice of Everlasting Love, That rang with living power through us, Is worthy thus our souls to move, Worthy to fill a lifetime thus; Here none was e'er deceived or lost, Howe'er his earthly hopes might fade; Then well for him who weighs the cost Ere yet his final choice is made. Yes, scatter'd are our brothers now O'er land and ocean far apart, Yet to one Master still they bow, In Him they still are one in heart; For as one sin, one poison ran Through all our race since Adam's fall; There is one hope, one life for man In Him who bore the sins of all. Sweet for each other oft to plead, And feel our oneness in the Son, Ah then we daily meet indeed In spirit at our Father's throne! Our bodies are but parted here, And fade in this dark land away The earthly shadows disappear, The harvest ripens for that Day. Soon Time for us shall cease to reign, The Saviour calls us home in peace; At last we all shall meet again, And dwell together all in bliss, Where faith to clearest vision yields; -- Triumphant light for sorrowing gloom, For desert wastes fair Eden's fields, For tearful paths a blessed home!

For Travellers On the Voyage.

VI.

On the Voyage. 8,7,8,7,7,7,7 In die Segel fanst und linde [235]de la Motte Fouqué. On our sails all soft and sweetly, Yet with bold resistless force, Breathe the winds of heaven, and fleetly Wing us on our watery course; Swift, and swifter, furrowing deep Through the mighty waves, that keep Not a trace where we have been, On we speed to lands unseen! Sink thou deeply in our mind, Type of life, most apt and true! Though we leave no track behind, Yet we plough our furrows too, Where, from out a world of bliss, Falls the seed unseen of this, And an unseen distant home Beckons o'er the desert foam. Be our voyage, brethren, such That if direst peril came, Wreck and ruin could not touch Ought but this our weary frame; That may gladly sleep, the while Still and blest the soul shall smile, In the eternal peace of Heaven, That our God hath surely given. Oh that in that blessed peace Many and many a soul may rest! Oh through us may God increase Soon the number of the blest! Free through us the souls that now' Neath a bitter bondage bow; Whom yet darkest error binds! Speed, oh speed us on, ye winds!

AT THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

[236]1. Now lay we calmly in the grave

[237]2. Now weeping at the grave we stand

[238]3. Christ will gather in His own

[239]4. Though Love may weep with breaking heart

[240]5. Gentle Shepherd, Thou hast still'd

[241]6. Thou'rt mine, yes, still thou art mine own! See also from Lyra Germanica, The Christian Year, [242]Hymns for the Burial of the Dead

At the Burial of the Dead The Sure and Certain Hope.

I.

The Sure and Certain Hope. 8,8,8,8 Nun lasst uns den Leib begraben [244]Michael Weiss.1531.
Now lay we calmly in the grave This form, whereof no doubt we have That it shall rise again that
Day In glorious triumph o'er decay. And so to earth again we trust What came from dust, and turns
to dust, And from the dust shall surely rise When the last trumpet fills the skies.His soul is living
now in GodWhole grace his pardon hath bestow'd,Who through His Son redeem'd him hereFrom
bondage unto sin and fear.His trials and his griefs are past,A blessed end is his at last,He bore
Christ's yoke, and did His will,And though he died, he liveth still.He lives where none can mourn
and weep,And calmly shall this body sleepTill God shall Death himself destroy,And raise it into
glorious joy.He suffer'd pain and grief below,Christ heals him now from all his woe,For him hath
endless joy begun,He shines in glory like the sun.Then let us leave him to his rest,And homeward
turn, for he is blest,And we must well our souls prepare,When death shall come, to meet him
there.Then help us, Christ, our Hope in loss!Thou hast redeem'd us by Thy crossFrom endless
death and misery;We praise, we bless, we worship Thee!

At the Burial of the Dead The Departure of a Christian.

II.

The Departure of a Christian. 8,6,8,6 Am Grabe stehn wir stille [246]Spitta. Now weeping at the grave we stand And sow the seed in tears, The form of him who in our band On earth no more appears. Ah no, for he hath safely come Where we too would attain; He dwells within our Father's home, And death to him was gain. Now he beholds what we believe, He has what here we want, The sins no more his soul can grieve That here the pilgrim haunt; The Lord hath claim'd him for His own, And sent him calm release; We weep, but it is we alone, He dwells in perfect peace. He wears the crown of life on high, He bears the shining palm, Where angels "Holy, holy," cry, He joins their glorious psalm. But we poor pilgrims journey on Through this dark land of woe, Until we go where he is gone, And all his joy shall know.

At the Burial of the Dead The Lord doth all Things Well.

III.

The Lord doth all Things Well. 7,7,7,7 Aller Gläubigen Sammelplatz [248]Moravian Hymn-Book.
Christ will gather in His own To the place where He is gone, Where their heart and treasure lie,
Where our life is hid on high. Day by day the voice saith, "Come, Enter thine eternal home;" Asking
not if we can spare This dear soul it summons there.Had He ask'd us, well we knowWe should cry,
oh spare this blow!Yes, with streaming tears should pray,"Lord, we love him, let him stay!"But the
Lord doth nought amiss,And since He hath order'd this,We have nought to do but stillRest in
silence on His will.Many a heart no longer here,Ah! was all too inly dear;Yet, O Love, 'tis Thou dost
call,Thou wilt be our All in all.

At the Burial of the Dead The Light in Darkness.

IV.

The Light in Darkness. 8,8,8,8 Mag auch die Liebe weinen [250]F. A. Krummacher. Though Love may weep with breaking heart, There comes, O Christ, a Day of Thine, There is a Morning Star must shine, And all these shadows shall depart. Though Faith may droop and tremble here, That Day of light shall surely come; His path has led him safely home; When twilight breaks the dawn is near. Though Hope seem now to have hoped in vain, And Death seem king of all below, There yet shall come the Morning-glow, And wake our slumberers once again.

At the Burial of the Dead The Death of a little Child.

V.

The Death of a little Child. 7,8,7,8,7,7 Guter Hirt, du hast gestillet [252]Meinhold. Gentle Shepherd,
Thou hast still'd Now Thy little lamb's long weeping; Ah how peaceful, pale, and mild, In its narrow
bed 'tis sleeping, And no sigh of anguish sore Heaves that little bosom more. In this world of care
and pain, Lord, Thou wouldst no longer leave it, To the sunny heavenly plain Dost Thou now with
joy receive it, Clothed in robes of spotless white, Now it dwells with Thee in light. Ah Lord Jesus,
grant that we Where it lives may soon be living, And the lovely pastures see That its heavenly food
are giving, Then the gain of death we prove Though Thou take what most we love.

At the Burial of the Dead On the Death of His Son.

VI.

On the Death of His Son. 8,6,8,6,8,8,8,8 Do bist zwar mein und bleibest mein [254]Paul Gerhardt.1650. Thou'rt mine, yes, still thou art mine own! Who tells me thou art lost? But yet thou art not mine alone, I own that He who cross'd My hopes, hath greatest right in thee; Yea, though He ask and take from me Thee, O my son, my heart's delight, My wish, my thought, by day and night. Ah might I wish, ah might I choose, Then thou, my Star, shouldst live, And gladly for thy sake I'd lose All else that life can give. Oh fain I'd say: Abide with me, The sunshine of my house to be, No other joy but this I crave, To love thee, darling, to my grave! Thus saith my heart, and means it well, God meaneth better still; My love is more than words can tell, His love is greater still; I am a father, He the Head And Crown of fathers, whence is shed The life and love from which have sprung All blessed ties in old and young. I long for thee, my son, my own, And He who once hath given, Will have thee now beside His throne, To live with Him in heaven. I cry, Alas! my light, my child! But God hath welcome on him smiled, And said: "My child, I keep thee near, For there is nought but gladness here." Oh blessed word, oh deep decree, More holy than we think! With God no grief or woe can be, No bitter cup to drink, No sickening hopes, no want or care, No hurt can ever reach him there; Yes, in that Father's shelter'd home I know that sorrow cannot come. We pass our nights in wakeful thought For our dear children's sake; All day our anxious toil hath sought How best for them to make A future safe from care or need, Yet seldom do our schemes succeed; How rarely does their future prove What we had plann'd for those we love! How many a child of promise bright Ere now hath gone astray, By ill example taught to slight And quit Christ's holy way. Oh fearful the reward is then, The wrath of God, the scorn of men! The bitterest tears by mortal shed Are his, who mourns a child misled. But now I need not fear for thee, Where thou art, all is well; For thou thy Father's Face dost see, With Jesus thou dost dwell! Yes, cloudless joys around him shine, His heart shall never ache like mine, He sees the radiant armies glow That keep and guide us here below: He hears their singing evermore, His little voice too sings, He drinks of wisdom deepest lore, He speaks of secret things, That we can never see or know Howe'er we seek or strive below, While yet amid the mists we stand That veil this dark and tearful land. Oh that I could but watch afar, And hearken but awhile, To that sweet song that hath no jar, And see his heavenly smile, As he doth praise the holy God, Who made him pure for that abode! In tears of joy full well I know This burden'd heart would overflow. And I should say: Stay there, my son, My wild laments are o'er, O well for thee that thou hast won, I call thee back no more; But come, thou fiery chariot, come, And bear me swiftly to that home, Where he with many a loved one dwells, And evermore of gladness tells! Then be it as my Father wills, I will not weep for thee; Thou livest, joy thy spirit fills, Pure sunshine thou dost see, The sunshine of eternal rest: Abide, my child, where thou art blest; I with our friends will onward fare, And, when God wills, shall find thee there.

PART II. THE INNER LIFE.

[255]Penitence

[256]Praise and Thanksgiving

[257]The Life of Faith

[258]Songs of the Cross

[259]The Final Conflict and Heaven

PENITENCE. Lord Jesus Christ, in Thee alone

[260]1. Lord Jesus Christ, in Thee alone

[261]2. Alas! my Lord and God

[262]3. Jesus, pitying Saviour, hear me

[263]4. O Jesus, Lord of majesty!

[264]5. O God, Thou faithful God

[265]6. Thou Who breakest every chain

[266]7. Courage, my sorely-tempted heart!

Penitence The Only Helper.

I.

The Only Helper. 8,6,8,6,8,8,4,8 Allein zu dir Herr Jesu Christ [268]J. Schneeing.1522. Lord Jesus Christ, in Thee alone My hope on earth I place; For other comforter is none, Nor help save in Thy grace. There is no man nor creature here, No angel in the heavenly sphere, Who at my need can succour me; I cry to Thee, For Thou canst end my misery. My sin is very sore and great, I mourn beneath its load; Oh free me from this heavy weight Through Thy most precious blood; And with Thy Father for me plead That Thou hast suffer'd in my stead, The burden then from me is roll'd; Lord, I lay hold On Thy dear promises of old. And of Thy grace on me bestow True Christian faith, O Lord, That all the sweetness I may know That in Thy cross is stored, Love Thee o'er earthly pride or pelf, And love my neighbour as myself; And when at last is come my end, Be Thou my Friend, From all assaults my soul defend. Glory to God in highest heaven, The Father of all love; To His dear Son, for sinners given Whose grace we daily prove; To God the Holy Ghost we cry, That we may find His comfort nigh, And learn how, free from sin and fear, To please Him here, And serve Him in the sinless sphere.

Penitence Submission.

II.

Submission. 6,6,10,6,6,10 Ach Gott und Herr wie gross und schwer [270]Rutilius.1604; and Gross.1627. Alas! my Lord and God, How heavy is my load, My sins are great and weigh me to the ground; The yoke doth sorely press, And yet in my distress Through all the world no helper can be found. And fled I in my fear Far far away from here, To earth's remotest end -- Thou still wert there. My anguish and my pain Would yet with me remain; I could not flee away from my despair. 'Tis Thou canst help alone, I cast me at Thy throne, Reject me not, though I deserve it, Lord; Ah think of all Thy Son For me, for me, hath done, Nor let me feel Thy sharp avenging sword. And if it must be so, That punishment and woe Must follow sin, then let me bear it here; Low at Thy feet I bow, Oh let me suffer now, But spare me yonder, then in love appear. Oh Lord, forget my sin, And deign to put within A calm obedient heart, a patient mind, That I may murmur not, Though bitter seem my lot, For hearts unthankful can no blessing find. Do Thou, O Lord, with me As seemeth best to Thee, For Thou wilt strengthen me to bear the rod, For this alone I pray, Oh cast me not away, For ever from Thy grace, Thou pitying God. Nay, that Thou wilt not do, I know Thy word is true, My faith can rest in quiet hope on Thee, The death of Christ, I know, Hath freed me from my woe, And open'd heaven to sinners and to me. Lord Jesus, where Thou art All doubt and dread depart, My refuge is the cross where Thou wast slain, Where Thou, Lord, for our sake Didst all our griefs partake, And die our comfort and our grace to gain. Here at my Saviour's side, Here let me still abide, Then death may come, but little he destroys; Though soul and body part, I live where Thou, Lord, art, My sins wiped out amid eternal joys. All praise to God alone, Who claims me for His own, Through Christ my Lord; O let me trust Him then, And lean in fullest faith On what my Saviour saith, He who believeth shall be saved; Amen.

Penitence In great inward Distress.

III.

In great inward Distress. 8,4,7,8,4,7 Jesu mein Erbarmer höre [272]Tersteegen.1731. Jesus, pitying Saviour, hear me, Draw Thou near me, Turn Thee, Lord, in grace to me; For Thou knowest all my sorrow, Night and morrow Doth my cry go up to Thee. Lost in darkness, girt with dangers, Round me strangers, Through an alien land I roam, Outward trials, bitter losses, Inward crosses, Lord, Thou know'st have sought me home. See the fetters that have bound me, Snares surround me, Free the captive, hear my call; Ah from sin my soul I never Can deliver, I am weak and helpless all. Though the tempter's wiles and cunning I am shunning, Yet they vex and wound me sore; Oft I waver, oft I languish, Fill'd with anguish, Strength and rest are mine no more. Peace I cannot find, oh take me, Lord, and make me From the yoke of evil free; Calm this longing never-sleeping, Still my weeping, Grant me hope once more in Thee. Sin of courage hath bereft me, And hath left me Scarce a spark of faith or hope; Bitter tears my heart oft sheddeth As it dreadeth I am past Thy mercy's scope. Lord, wilt Thou be wroth for ever? Oh deliver Me from all I most deserved; 'Tis Thyself, dear Lord, hast sought me, Thou hast taught me Thee to seek from whom I swerved. Thou, my God and King, hast known me, Yet hast shown me True and loving is Thy will; Though my heart from Thee oft ranges, Through its changes, Lord, Thy love is faithful still. Satan watches to betray me, He would slay me, Quicken Thou my faith and powers, Let me, though Thy face Thou'rt hiding, Still confiding, Look to Thee in darkest hours. Bless my trials thus to sever Me for ever From the love of self and sin; Let me through them see Thee clearer, Find Thee nearer, Grow more like to Thee within. In the patience that Thou lendest All Thou sendest I embrace, I will be still; Bend this stubborn heart I pray Thee To obey Thee, Calmly waiting on Thy will. Here I bring my will, oh take it, Thine, Lord, make it, Calm this troubled heart of mine; In Thy strength I too may conquer, Wait no longer, Show in me Thy grace Divine.

Penitence The Weakness and Restlessness of Sin.

IV.

The Weakness and Restlessness of Sin. 8,8,8,8 O Jesu König hoch zu ehren [274]Tersteegen.1731. O Jesus, Lord of majesty! O glorious King, eternal Son! In mercy bend Thou down to me, As now I cast me at Thy throne. Enslaved to vanity, and weak, An alien power in me hath sway, My strength is gone, howe'er I seek I cannot break my bonds away. How oft my heart against my wills torn and tossing to and fro, I cannot, as I would, fulfill The good that yet I love and know. How many ties oppress and bind The soul that yearneth to be free; Distracted, vanquish'd, oft the mind That fain would rest at peace in Thee. I practice me in self-controul, Yet rest and calm in vain pursue Self-will is rooted in my soul, And thwarts me still, whate'er I do. I hate it, but its life is strong, I fear, yet cannot it forsake; Ah Lord, how long it seems, how long, Until Thy grace my yoke shall break! Ah Jesus, when, when, wilt Thou lead The prisoner from this drear abode? When shall I feel that I am freed, And Thou art with me, Son of God? Oh take this heart, that I would give For ever to be all Thine own; I to myself no more would live; Come, Lord, be Thou my King alone. Yes, take my heart, and in it rule, Direct it as it pleases Thee; I will be silent in Thy school, And learn whate'er Thou teachest me. What lives by life that is not Thine, I yield it to Thy righteous doom; What yet resists Thy power Divine, Oh let Thy fire of love consume. And then within the heart abide That Thou halt cleansed to be Thy throne; A look from Thee shall be my guide, I watch but till Thy will is known. Yes, make me Thine, -- though I am weak, Thy service makes us strong and free; My Lord and King, Thy face I seek, For ever keep me true to Thee.

Penitence A Christian's Daily Prayer.

V.

A Christian's Daily Prayer. 6,7,6,7,6,6,6,6 O Gott du frommer Gott [276]Johann Heermann.1630.
O God, Thou faithful God, Thou Fountain ever flowing, Without Whom nothing is All perfect gifts bestowing; O pure and healthy frame O give me, and within A conscience free from blame, A soul unhurt by sin.And grant me, Lord, to do,With ready heart and willing,Whate'er Thou shalt command,My calling here fulfilling,And do it when I ought,With all my strength, and blessThe work I thus have wrought,For Thou must give success.And let me promise noughtBut I can keep it truly,Abstain from idle words,And guard my lips still duly;And grant, when in my placel must and ought to speak,My words due power and grace,Nor let me wound the weak.If dangers gather round,Still keep me calm and fearless;Help me to bear the crossWhen life is dark and cheerless;To overcome my foeWith words and actions kind;When counsel I would know,Good counsel let me find.And let me be with allIn peace and friendship living,As far as Christians may;And if Thou aught art givingOf wealth and honours fair,Oh this refuse me not,That nought be mingled thereOf goods unjustly got.And if a longer lifeBe here on earth decreed me,And Thou through many a strifeTo age at last wilt lead me,Thy patience in me shed,Avert all sin and shame,And crown my hoary headWith pure untarnish'd fame.Let nothing that may chance,Me from my Saviour sever;And dying with Him, takeMy soul to Thee for ever;And let my body haveA little space to sleepBeside my fathers' grave,And friends that o'er it weep.And when the Day is come,And all the dead are waking,Oh reach me down Thy hand,Thyself my slumbers breaking;Then let me hear Thy voice,And change this earthly frame,And bid me aye rejoiceWith those who love Thy name.

Penitence The Deliverer from Bondage.

VI.

The Deliverer from Bondage. 7,7,7,7 O Durchbrecher aller Bande [278]Gottfried Arnold.1697.
Thou Who breakest every chain, Thou Who still art ever near, Thou with Whom disgrace and pain
Turn to joy and heaven e'en here; Let Thy further judgments fall On the Adam strong within, Till
Thy grace hath freed us all From the prison-house of sin.'Tis Thy Father's will toward us,Thou
shouldst end Thy work at length;Hence in Thee are centred thusPerfect wisdom, love, and
strength,That Thou none shouldst lose of thoseWhom He gave Thee, though they roam'Wilder'd
here amid their foes,Thou shouldst bring them safely home.Ah Thou wilt, Thou canst not cease,Till
Thy perfect work be done;In Thy hands we lie at peace,Knowing all Thy love hath won,Though the
world may blindly dreamWe are captives poor and base,And the cross's yoke may deemSign of
meanness and disgrace.Look upon our bonds, and seeHow doth all creation groan'Neath the yoke
of vanity,Make Thy full redemption known;Still we wrestle, cry, and pray,Held in bitter bondage
fast,Though the soul would break awayInto higher things at last.Lord, we do not ask for restFor
the flesh, we only prayThou wouldst do as seems Thee best,Ere yet comes our parting day;But our
spirit clings to Thee,Will not, dare not, let Thee go,Until Thou have set her freeFrom the bonds that
cause her woe.Conqueror conquer, Ruler reign,King assert Thy sovereign right,Till no slavery
more remainSpread the kingdom of Thy might!Lead the captives freely out,Through the covenant
of Thy blood,From our dark remorse and doubt,For Thou willest but our good.Ours the fault it is,
we own,We are slaves to self and sloth,Yet oh leave us not aloneIn the living death we
loathe;Crush'd beneath our burden's weight,Crying at Thy feet we fall,Point the path, though steep
and strait,Thou didst open once for all.Ah how dearly were we boughtNot to serve the world or
sin;By the work that Thou hall wroughtMust Thou make us pure within, -- Wholly pure and free, in
usBe Thine image now restored:Fill'd from out Thy fulness thusGrace for grace is on us
pour'd.Draw us to Thy cross, O Love,Crucify with Thee whate'erCannot dwell with Thee
above,Lead us to those regions fair!Courage! long the time may seem,Yet His day is coming
fast;We shall be like them that dreamWhen our freedom dawns at last.

Penitence The Safe Refuge.

VII.

The Safe Refuge. 8,8,8,8,4 Brich durch mein angefochtnes. [280]J. H. Böhmer.1704. Courage, my sorely-tempted heart! Break through thy woes, forget their smart; Come forth and on Thy Bridegroom gaze, The Lamb of God, the Fount of grace; Here is thy place! His arms are open, thither flee! There rest and peace are waiting thee, The deathless crown of righteousness, The entrance to eternal bliss; He gives thee this! Then combat well, of nought afraid, For thus His follower thou art made, Each battle teaches thee to fight, Each foe to be a braver knight, Arm'd with His might. If storms of fierce temptation rise, Unmoved I'll face the frowning skies; If but the heart is true indeed, Christ will be with me in my need, -- His own could bleed. I flee away to Thy dear cross, For hope is there for every loss, Healing for every wound and woe, There all the strength of love I know And feel its glow. Before the Holy One I fall, The Eternal Sacrifice for all; His death has freed us from our load, Peace on the anguish'd soul bestow'd, Brought us to God. How then should I go mourning on? I look to Thee, -- my fears are gone, With Thee is rest that cannot cease, For Thou hast wrought us full release, And made our peace. Thy word hath still its glorious powers, The noblest chivalry is ours; O Thou, for whom to die is gain, I bring Thee here my all, oh deign To accept and reign!

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING. Now thank we all our God

[281]1. Now thank we all our God

[282]2. All praise and thanks to God most High

[283]3. O, heaven and earth, and sea and air

[284]4. I who so oft in deep distress

[285]5. O mighty Spirit! Source whence all things sprung! [286]6. In Thee is gladness

[287]7. Thank God it hath resounded

Praise and Thanksgiving The Chorus of God's Thankful Children.

I.

The Chorus of God's Thankful Children. 6,7,6,7,6,6,6,6 Nun danket alle Gott [289]Martin Rinckart.1636. Now thank we all our God, With heart and hands and voices, Who wondrous things hath done, In Whom His world rejoices; Who from our mother's arms Hath bless'd us on our way With countless gifts of love, And still is ours to-day.Oh may this bounteous GodThrough all our life be near us,With ever joyful heartsAnd blessed peace to cheer us;And keep us in His grace,And guide us when perplex'd,And free us from all illsIn this world and the next.All praise and thanks to GodThe Father, now be given,The Son, and Him who reignsWith them in highest heaven,The One eternal God,Whom earth and heaven adore,For thus it was, is now,And shall be evermore!

Praise and Thanksgiving The Goodness of God.

II.

The Goodness of God. 8,6,8,6,8,8,7 Sei Lob und Ehr dem höchsten Gut [291]J. J. Schütz.1673.
All praise and thanks to God most High, The Father of all Love! The God who doeth wondrously,
The God who from above My soul with richest solace fills, The God who every sorrow stills; Give
to our God the glory! The hosts of heaven Thy praises tell,All thrones bow down to Thee,And all
who in Thy shadow dwell,In earth and air and sea,Declare and laud their Maker's might,Whose
wisdom orders all things right;Give to our God the glory!And for the creatures He hath madeOur
God shall well provide;His grace shall be their constant aid,Their guard on every side;His kingdom
ye may surely trust,There all is equal, all is just;Give to our God the glory!I sought Him in my hour
of need;Lord God, now hear my prayer!For death He gave me life indeed,And comfort for
despair;For this my thanks shall endless be,Oh thank Him, thank Him too with meGive to our God
the glory!The Lord is never far away,Nor sunder'd from His flock;He is their refuge and their
stay,Their peace, their trust, their rock,And with a mother's watchful loveHe guides them
wheresoe'er they rove:Give to our God the glory!And when earth cannot comfort more,Nor earthly
help avail,The Maker comes Himself, whose storeOf blessing cannot fail,And bends on them a
Father's eyesWhom earth all rest and hope denies:Give to our God the glory!Ah then till life hath
reach'd its bound,My God, I'll worship Thee,The chorus of Thy praise shall soundFar over land and
sea;Oh soul and body now rejoice,My heart send forth a gladsome voice:Give to our God the
glory!All ye who name Christ's holy Name,Give to our God the glory!Ye who the Father's power
proclaim,Give to our God the glory!All idols under foot be trod,The Lord is God! The Lord is
God!Give to our God the glory!

Praise and Thanksgiving The Glory of God in Creation.

III.

The Glory of God in Creation. 8,8,8,8 Himmel Erde Luft und Meer [293]Joachim Neander.1679 O, heaven and earth, and sea and air, Their Maker's glory all declare; And thou, my soul, awake and sing, To Him Thy praises also bring. Through Him the glorious Source of Day Drives all the clouds of night away; The pomp of stars, the moon's soft light, Praise Him through all the silent night.Behold, how He hath everywhereMade earth so wondrous rich and fair;The forest dark, the fruitful land,All living things do show His hand.Behold, how through the boundless skyThe happy birds all swiftly fly;And fire and wind and storm are stillThe ready servants of His will.Behold the waters' ceaseless flowFor ever circling to and fro;The mighty sea, the bubbling well,Alike their Maker's glory tell.My God, how wondrously dost ThouUnfold Thyself to us e'en now!O grave it deeply on my heartWhat I am, Lord, and what Thou art!

Praise and Thanksgiving The Faithfulness of God.

IV.

The Faithfulness of God. 8,6,8,6,8,8,6 Ich der ich oft in grosser Noth [295]Paul Gerhardt.1606-1676. I who so oft in deep distress And bitter grief must dwell, Will now my God with gladness bless, And all His mercies tell; Oh hear me then, my God and King, While of Thy Holy Name I sing, Who doest all things well. Our fathers who are now no moreHave praised Thee in their day,They taught their children oft of yoreThe wonders of Thy way;Our children shall not rest, and stillThey shall not all the measure fill,Nor all exhaust the lay.To Thee how many thankful songsHave gone up ere my days,And yet to me a part belongsIn that great hymn of praise;I too must tell Thy wondrous might,And praise Thy covenant just and right,And Thine all-conquering grace.And many a pious heart shall learnThe songs I make to Thee,Far o'er the stars that yonder burnShall rise our harmony,Thy Majesty, Thy mighty HandShall be reveal'd to every land,And all Thy goodness see!For who is gracious, Lord, as Thou?Who hath so much forgiven?Who still to us would pitying bowWho thus with grace have striven?For lost in sins the whole world lies,Her ceaseless crimes would scale the skies,And cry aloud to heaven.Yes, it must be a faithful heartThat thus can love us still,Who oft reject the better part,And thankless choose the ill;But God can be nought else but good,And therefore doth His mercies' floodAll things with blessing fill.For this the works that Thou hast madeDo thank Thee and rejoice,Thy saints shall bless Thee for Thine aid,And make Thy ways their choice,And tell abroad from hour to hourThy glorious rule, Thy kingdom's power,With far-resounding voice.Yes, they shall praise it, till its fameThrough all the world shall ring,And all men learn to know Thy nameAnd gifts and service bring;Eternal is Thy glorious throne,Thy rule is like Thyself alone,O just, Eternal King!And yet in death or pain or loss,The Lord is with us all,Lightens the pressure of the cross,Upholds us when we fall;He stems the swelling tide of woes,And when we sink beneath its blowsHe comes, ere yet we call.All eyes do wait on Thee, O Lord,Who keepest us from dearth,Who scatterest rich supplies abroadFor all the wants of earth;Thou openest oft Thy bounteous hand,And all in sea and air and landAre fill'd with food and mirth.Thy thoughts are good, and Thou art kindE'en when we think it not;How many an anxious faithless mindSits grieving o'er its lot,And frets and pines by day and night,As God had lost it out of sight,And all its wants forgot!Ah no! God ne'er forgets His own,His heart is far too true,He ever seeks their good alone,His love is daily new;And though thou deem that things go ill,Yet He in all He doeth, stillIs holy, just and true.The Lord to them is ever nighWho truly keep His word,Whene'er in faith to Him they cryTheir prayer is surely heard;He knoweth well who love Him well,His love shall yet their clouds dispel,And grant the hope deferr'd.To those who love Him He deniesNo good thing that they seek;He sees their sorrow, counts their sighs,And hearkens when they speak,And surely frees them from their woes;But those who hate them He o'erthrows,And makes their boasting weak.Yet this is but a little partOf what I fain would sing;But daily shall my voice and heartNew thanks and praises bring;Oh help me all that live and move,Help me to speak His faithful love,And praise our glorious King.

Praise and Thanksgiving The Holiness of God brought near to Man in Christ

V.

The Holiness of God brought near to Man in Christ 10,10,10,10,8,8,10,10 O grosser Geist, o Ursprung [297]J. J. Rambach.1720. O mighty Spirit! Source whence all things sprung! O glorious Majesty of perfect Light! Hath ever worthy praise to Thee been sung, Or mortal heart endured to meet Thy sight? If they who sin have never known Must veil their faces at Thy throne, Oh how shall I, who am but sin and dust, Approach untrembling to the Pure and Just?The voice of conscience in the soul hath shownSome far-off glimpses of Thy holiness,And yet more clearly hast Thou made it knownIn Thy dear word that tells us of Thy grace;But with all-glorious light divineln His face we behold it shine,The sinless One, who this dark earth has trodTo win through sorrow sinners back to God.The brightness of Thy glory was the Son;Thy law engraven on His heart He wore,And on His forehead that all clearly shoneThat Aaron's forehead but in shadow bore; [3]And even to death did He obeyTo take the guilt of sin away,And made a curse for man, and dying thus,He won the power of holiness for us.Now may Thine image in us shine anewIn holy righteousness and innocence;Now, strengthen'd by Thy Son, a service trueThy people render, pure from all offence;But all their light is only dim,A shadow'd broken light from Him,Who that we might be holy bore our load,In Whom we dare to meet the Holy God.

Praise and Thanksgiving To the Saviour.

VI.

To the Saviour. 5,5,7,5,5,7,5,5,5,5,4,5,5,5,5,4 In dir ist Freude [299]l. Lindemann.1580-1630.
In Thee is gladness Amid all sadness, Jesus, Sunshine of my heart! By Thee are given The gifts of
heaven, Thou the true Redeemer art! Our souls Thou wakest, Our bonds Thou breakest,Who
trusts Thee surelyHath built securely,He stands for ever:Hallelujah.Our hearts are piningTo see
Thy shining,Dying or livingTo Thee are cleaving,Nought can us sever;Hallelujah.If He is ours,We
fear no powersOf earth or Satan, sin or death!He sees and blessesIn worst distresses,He can
change them with a breath!Wherefore the storyTell of His gloryWith heart and voices;All heaven
rejoicesIn Him for ever;Hallelujah.We triumph o'er sadness,We sing in our gladness,We love
Thee, we praise Thee,And yonder shall raise Thee,Glad hymns for ever;Hallelujah.

Praise and Thanksgiving For Public Peace.

VII.

For Public Peace. Written at the close of the Thirty Years' War. 7,8,7,8,6,6,6,6 Gottlob, nun ist erschollen [301]Paul Gerhardt.1648. Thank God it hath resounded, The blessed voice of joy and Peace! And murder's reign is bounded, And spear and sword at last may cease. Arise, take down thy lyre, My country, and once more Uplift in full-toned choirThy happy songs of yore;Oh raise thy heart to God and say:Thy covenants, Lord, endure,Thy mercies do not pass away,Thy promises are sure.For nothing do we merit,But fiery wrath and sharpest rod,A race of froward spirit,Whose shameless sins still mock our God;And He indeed hath sent usFull many a bitter stroke,And yet, do we repent us,Or learn to bear His yoke?Nay, as we were so still we are,But God abideth true,His help shall still the noise of war,The captives' bonds undo.O welcome day, that brought usThis precious noble gift of Peace!For war hath deeply taught usWhat sorrows come where she doth cease;In her our God now layethAll hope, all happiness;Who woundeth her, or slayeth,Doth, like a madman, pressThe arrow to his own heart's core,And quench with impious handThe golden torch of Peace once more,That glads at last our land.This ye could teach us only,So dull and hard these hearts of ours,Ye homes, now stripp'd and lonely,Ye wasted cities, ruin'd towers;Ye fields once fairly blooming,With golden harvests graced,Where forests now are glooming,Or spreads a dreary waste;Ye graves, with corpses piled, where liesFull many a hero brave,Whose like no more shall meet our eyes,Who died, yet could not save.O man, with bitter mourningRemember now the bygone years,When thou hast met God's warningWith careless scoff, not contrite tears;Yet like a loving Father,He lays aside His wrath,And seeks with kindness ratherTo lure thee to His path;He tries if love may yet constrainThe heart that hath withstoodHis rod, -- oh let Him not in vainNow strive with thee for good!Thou careless world awaken!Awake, awake, all ye that sleep,Ere yet ye be o'ertakenWith ruin sudden, swift, and deep!But he who knows Christ liveth,May hope and fear no ill,The Peace that now He givethHath deeper meaning still,For He will surely teach us this:"The end is nigh at hand,When ye in perfect rest and peaceBefore your God shall stand."

THE LIFE OF FAITH. Faith is a living power from heaven

[302]1. Faith is a living power from heaven

[303]2. Who keepeth not God's word, yet saith

[304]3. I know in Whom I put my trust

[305]4. Lord, all my heart is fix'd on Thee

[306]5. Now at last I end the strife

[307]6. Who would make the prize his own

[308]7. Oh dearest Lord! to feel that Thou art near [309]8. Here behold me, as I cast me

[310]9. Up! yes, upward to thy gladness

[311]10. A pilgrim here I wander

[312]11. Now the pearly gates unfold

The Life of Faith Faith.

I.

Faith. 8,8,8,8 Der Glaub ist eine lebendige Kraft [314]Bohemian Brethren. Faith is a living power from heaven, That grasps the promise God hath given, A trust that cannot be o'erthrown, Fix'd heartily on Christ alone. Faith finds in Christ whate'er we need To save or strengthen us indeed, Receives the grace He sends us down, And makes us share His cross and crown. Faith in the conscience worketh peace, And bids the mourner's weeping cease; By Faith the children's place we claim, And give all honour to One Name. Faith feels the Spirit's kindling breath In love and hope that conquer death; Faith worketh hourly joy in God, And trusts and blesses e'en the rod. We thank Thee then, O God of heaven, That Thou to us this faith hast given In Jesus Christ Thy Son, Who is Our only Fount and Source of bliss; And from His fulness grant each soul The rightful faith's true end and goal, The blessedness no foes destroy, Eternal love and light and joy.

The Life of Faith Faith that worketh by Love.

II.

Faith that worketh by Love. 8,6,8,6,8,8 Wer hält nicht Gottes Wort doch spricht [316]C. F. Gellert.1757. Who keepeth not God's word, yet saith, I know the Lord, is wrong; In him is not that blessed faith Through which the truth is strong; But he who hears and keeps the word, Is not of this world, but of God. The faith His word hath caused to shine Will kindle love in thee;More wouldst thou know of things divine,Deeper thy love must be;True faith not only gives thee light,But strength to love and do the right.Jesus hath wash'd away our sin,And we are children now;Who feels such hope as this within,To evil cannot bow;Rather with Christ all scorn endure,So we be like our Maker pure!For he doth please the Father wellWho simply can obey;In him the love of God doth dwellWho steadfast keeps His way;A daily active life of love,Such fruits a living faith must prove.He is in God, and God in him,Who still abides in love;'Tis love that makes the CherubimObey and praise above;For God is love, the loveless heartHath in His life and joy no part.

The Life of Faith The Christian's Trust.

III.

The Christian's Trust. 8,6,8,6 Ich weiss an wen ich glaube [318]E. M. Arndt. I know in Whom I put my trust, I know what standeth fast, When all things here dissolve like dust Or smoke before the blast: I know what still endures, howe'er All else may quake and fall, When lies the prudent men ensnare, And dreams the wise enthral.It is the Dayspring from on high,The adamantine Rock,Whence never storm can make me fly,That fears no earthquake's shock;My Jesus Christ, my sure Defence,My Saviour, and my Light,That shines within, and scatters thenceDark phantoms of the night:Who once was borne, betray'd and slain,At evening to the grave;Whom God awoke, Who rose again,A Conqueror strong to save;Who pardons all my sin, who sendsHis Spirit pure and mild;Whose grace my every step befriends,Who ne'er forgets His child!Therefore I know in Whom I trust,I know what standeth fast,When all things form'd of earthly dustAre whirling in the blast;The terrors of the final foeCan rob me not of this,And this shall crown me once, I know,With never-fading bliss.

The Life of Faith The Anchor of the Soul.

IV.

The Anchor of the Soul. 8,8,6,8,8,6,8,8,8+4,8,8 Herzlich lieb hab ich dich O Herr [320]Schalling.1594. Lord, all my heart is fix'd on Thee, I pray Thee, be not far from me, With grace and love divine. The whole wide world delights me not, Of heaven or earth, Lord, ask I not, If only Thou art mine; And though my heart be like to break, Thou art my trust that nought can shake, My portion, and my hidden joy, Whose cross could all my bonds destroy; Lord Jesus Christ! My God and Lord! My God and Lord! Forsake me not who trust Thy word! Rich are Thy gifts! 'Twas God that gave Body and soul, and all I have In this poor life I live; That I may use them to Thy praise, And man's true welfare all my days, Thy grace I pray Thee give; From all false doctrine keep me, Lord; All lies and malice from me ward; In every cross uphold Thou me, That I may bear it patiently; Lord Jesus Christ! My God and Lord! My God and Lord! In death Thy comfort still afford. Ah Lord, let Thy dear angels come At my last end to bear me home To Paradise for aye; And in its narrow chamber keep My body safe in painless sleep Until Thy judgment Day; And then from death awaken me, That these mine eyes with joy may see, O Son of God, Thy glorious face, My Saviour, and my Fount of Grace! Lord Jesus Christ! Receive my prayer, receive my prayer, Thy love for ever I'll declare.

The Life of Faith The Resolve.

V.

The Resolve. 7,7,7,7,7,7 Nun so will ich denn mein Leben [322]Tersteegen.1731. Now at last I end the strife, To my God I give my life Wholly, with a steadfast mind; Sin, I will not hearken more, World, I turn from thee, 'tis o'er, Not a look I'll cast behind. Hath my heart been wavering long, Have I dallied oft with wrong, Now at last I firmly say: All my will to this I give, Only to my God to live, And to serve Him night and day. Lord, I offer at Thy feet All I have most dear and sweet, Lo! I keep no secret hoard: Try my heart, and lurks there aught False within its inmost thought, Take it hence this moment, Lord! I will shun no toil or wo, Where Thou leadest I will go, Be my pathway plain or rough; If but every hour may be Spent in work that pleases Thee, Ah, dear Lord, it is enough! One thing will I seek alone, Nothing outward shall be known, Sought, or toil'd for, more by me; Strange to earth and all her care, Well content with pilgrim's fare, Shall my life be hid in Thee. Thee I make my choice alone, Make for ever, Lord, Thine own All my powers of soul and mind; Here I give myself away, Let the covenant stand for aye That my hand to-day hath sign'd.

The Life of Faith The Christian Race.

VI.

The Christian Race. 7,7,7,7 Wer das Kleinod will erlangen [324]J. Mentzer.1704. Who would make the prize his own, Runs as swiftly as he can; Who would gain an earthly crown, Strives in earnest as a man; Trains himself betimes with care For the conflict he would share, Casts aside whate'er could be Hindrance to His victory. Lord, Thou biddest me aspire To a prize so high, so grand, That it sets my soul on fire To be found amidst Thy band: Oh how brightly shineth down From Thy heights the starry crown And the throne to victors given, Who for Thee have bravely striven! Yet it seems I strive in vain, Lord, in pity look on me, Thou my weakness must sustain, Set me now from all things free That would keep me from my goal; Come, Thyself prepare my soul, Give me joy and strength and life, Help me in the race, the strife. Well our utmost efforts worth Is the crown I see afar, Though the blinded sons of earth Care not for our holy war; An exceeding great reward Is that crown of grace, my Lord; Be Thyself my Strength divine, And the prize shall soon be mine.

The Life of Faith The Christian's Joy.

VII.

The Christian's Joy. 10,10,10,10,4 Ach mein Herr Jesu dein Naheseyn [326]Christian Gregor.1778. Oh dearest Lord! to feel that Thou art near Brings deepest peace, and hushes every fear; To see Thy smile, to hear Thy gracious voice, Makes soul and body inwardly rejoice With praise and thanks. We cannot see as yet Thy glorious face, Not yet our eyes behold its love and grace, But Thee our inmost soul can surely feel,Oh clearly, Lord, canst Thou Thyself reveal,Though all unseen!Oh well for him who ever day and nightStill only seeks to feed on Thee aright!In him a well of joy for ever springs,And, all day long his heart is glad and sings:Who is like Thee?For Thou dost love to meet us as a Friend,Our comfort, healing, hope, and joy to send;Patient to pity and to calm our woe,And daily to forgive us all we owe,Of Thy rich grace.Or though we weep soon bid our tears to cease,And make us feel how strong Thy love and peace;And let the soul see Thee within, and learnFrom need and love alike to Thee to turnWith ceaseless gaze.A warm and loving heart, a childlike mind,Through every change mayst Thou within us find;The comfort of Thy holy sorrows keepOur hearts at rest, in peace most calm and deep,In joy or woe!So shall we all, until Thy heaven we see,Like children evermore be glad in Thee,Though many a time the sudden tear may start, -- If only Thou wilt touch the throbbing heartAnd still its pain!Thou reachest down to us Thy wounded hand,And at Thy cross, dear Lord, ashamed we stand,Remembering all Thy truth through weal and woe,Until our eyes with tears must overflowOf thanks and praise.

The Life of Faith Under Clouds.

VIII.

Under Clouds. 8,7,8,7,8,7 Sieh hier bin ich Ehrenkönig [328]Joachim Neander.1679. Here behold me, as I cast me At Thy throne, O glorious King! Tears fast thronging, childlike longing, Son of Man, to Thee I bring. Let me find Thee -- let me find Thee! Me a poor and worthless thing. Look upon me, Lord, I pray Thee, Let Thy Spirit dwell in mine;Thou hast sought me, Thou hast bought me,Only Thee to know I pine;Let me find Thee -- let me find Thee!Take my heart and grant me Thine.Nought I ask for, nought I strive for,But Thy grace so rich and free,That Thou givest whom Thou lovest,And who truly cleave to Thee;Let me find Thee -- let me find Thee!He hath all things who hath Thee.Earthly treasure, mirth and pleasure,Glorious name, or richest hoard,Are but weary, void and dreary,To the heart that longs for God;Let me find Thee -- let me find Thee!I am ready, mighty Lord.

The Life of Faith Aspiration.

IX.

Aspiration. 8,7,8,7,4,7,7,4 Aufhinaufzu deiner Freude. [330]J. C. Schade. 1699. Up! yes, upward to thy gladness Rise, my heart, and soul, and mind! Cast, oh cast away thy sadness, Rise where thou thy Lord canst find. He is thy home, And thy life alone is He; Hath the world no place for thee, With Him is room. On, still onward, mounting nigher On the wings of faith to Him! On, still onward, ever higher, Till the mournful earth grows dim! God is thy Rock; Christ thy Champion cannot fail thee, Howsoe'er thy foes assail thee, Fear not their shock. Firm, yes firmly, ever cleaving Unto Christ the strong and true, All, yes all, to God still leaving, For His love is daily new, Be steadfast here; Soon thy foes shall be o'erthrown, Since He wills thy good alone, Be of good cheer. Hide thee, in His chamber hide thee, Christ hath open'd now the door; Tell Him all that doth betide thee, All thy sorrows there outpour; He hears thy cry; Men may hate thee and deceive thee, But He cannot, will not leave thee, He still is nigh. High, oh high, o'er all things earthy, Raise thy thoughts, my soul, to heaven; One alone of thee is worthy, All thou hast to Him be given; Thy Lord He is Who so truly pleads to have thee, Who in love hath died to save thee Then thou art His. Up then, upwards! seek thou only For the things that are above; Sin thou hatest, earth is lonely, Rise to Him whom thou dost love, -- There art thou blest; All things here must change and die, Only with our Lord on highs perfect rest.

The Life of Faith Song of the Christian Pilgrim.

X.

Song of the Christian Pilgrim. 7,6,7,6,8,6,8,6 Ich bin ein Gast auf Erden [332]Paul Gerhardt.1606-1676. A pilgrim here I wander, On earth have no abode, My fatherland is yonder, My home is with my God. For here I journey to and fro, There in eternal rest Will God His gracious gift bestow On all the toil-oppress'd.For what hath life been giving,From youth up till this day,But constant toil and striving?Far back as thought can stray,How many a day of toil and care,How many a night of tears,Hath pass'd in grief that none could share,In lonely anxious fears!How many a storm hath lighten'dAnd thunder'd round my path!And winds and rains have frighten'dMy heart with fiercest wrath:And cruel envy, hatred, scorn,Have darken'd oft my lot,And patiently reproach I've borne,Though I deserved it not.Then through this life of dangersI onward take my way;But in this land of strangersI do not think to stay,Still forward on the road I fareThat leads me to my home,My Father's comfort waits me there,When I have overcome.Ah yes, my home is yonder,Where all the angelic bandsPraise Him with awe and wonder,In whose Almighty handsAll things that are and shall be, lie,By Him upholden still,Who casteth down and lifts on highAt His most holy will.That home have I desired,'Tis there I would be goneTill I am well-nigh tired,O'er earth I've journey'd on;The longer here I roam, I findThe less of real joyThat e'er could please or fill my mind,For all hath some alloy.The lodging is too cheerless,The sorrow is too much;Ah come, my heart is fearless,Release it with Thy touch,When Thy heart wills, and make an endOf all this pilgrimage,And with Thine arm and strength defend,When foes against me rage.Where now my spirit stayethIs not her true abode,This earthly house decayeth,And she will drop its load,When comes the hour to leave beneathWhat now I use and have;And when I've yielded up my breathEarth gives me but a grave.But Thou, my joy and gladness,O Thou, my Life and Light,Wilt raise me from this sadness,This long tempestuous night,Into the perfect gladsome day,Where bathed in joy divine,Among Thy saints, and bright as they,I too shall ever shine.There shall I dwell for ever,Not as a guest alone,With those who cease there neverTo worship at Thy throne;There in my heritage I rest,From baser things set free,And join the chorus of the blestFor ever, Lord, to Thee!

The Life of Faith Longing for Home.

XI.

Longing for Home. 7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7,7 Oeffne nun die Perlenthoren [334]Wolfgang C. Deszler.1692. Now the pearly gates unfold, O Thou Joy of highest heaven, Who ere earth was made, of old Light of light for light wast given! Hasten, Lord, and quickly come, Bring the bride Thou hast betroth'd, In Thine own pure radiance clothed, Safe to Thine eternal home,Where no more the night of sinSpreads its fear and gloom within.All my spirit thirsts to see, Lord, Thy face unveil'd and bright;And to stand from sin set free, Spotless Lamb, amid Thy light. But I leave it, -- Thou dost well, And my heaven is here and now, Daystar of my soul, if Thou Wilt but deign in me to dwell; For without Thee could there be Joy in heaven itself for me? Bliss from Thee my soul hath won, Spite of darkly threat'ning ill; And my heart calls Thee its Sun, And the sea of care grows still In the shining of Thy smile; For Thy love's all-quickenng ray Chases night and pain away, That my heart grows light the while; Heavenly joys in Thee are mine, Far from Thee I mourn and pine. Graft me into Thee for ever, Tree of Life, that I may grow Stronger heavenward, drooping never For the sharpest storms that blow, Bearing fruits of faith and truth; Then transplant me out of time Into that eternal clime Where I shall renew my youth, When earth's wither'd leaves shall bloom Fresh in beauty from the tomb. Life, to whom as to my Head I unite me, through my soul Now Thy quickening life-stream shed, And Thy love's warm current roll, Freshening all with strength and grace; Be Thou mine, I am Thine own, Here and ever Thine alone, All my hope in Thee I place; Heaven and earth are nought to me, Save, O Life of life, with Thee!

SONGS OF THE CROSS. Can I my fate no more withstand

[335]1. Can I my fate no more withstand

[336]2. O Christ, Thou bright and Morning Star

[337]3. When in the hour of utmost need

[338]4. O Faithful God! O, pitying Heart

[339]5. Ah God, my days are dark indeed

[340]6. Why art thou thus cast down, my heart?

[341]7. All things hang on our possessing

[342]8. My God, in Thee all fulness lies

[343]9. Who puts his trust in God most just

[344]10. What pleases God, O pious soul

[345]11. Whate'er my God ordains is right

[346]12. Wherefore should I grieve and pine?

[347]13. Seems it in my anguish lone

Songs of the Cross Queen Maria of Hungary's Song.

I.

Queen Maria of Hungary's Song. Composed most probably in 1526, when she was compelled to flee from Buda on account of her adherence to the Reformed Doctrine, after the Battle of Mohacz; in which her husband and the flower of the Hungarian nobility fell in defending their country against the Turks. 8,4,7,8,4,7,8,8,7 Mag ich Unglück nicht widerstehn. Can I my fate no more withstand, Nor 'scape the hand That for my faith would grieve me; This is my strength, that well I know In weal or woe God's love the world must leave me God is not far, though hidden now, He soon shall rise and make them bow Who of His word bereave me. Judge as ye will my cause this hour, Yours is the power, God bids me strive no longer; I know what mightiest seems to-day Shall pass away, Time than your rule is stronger. The Eternal Good I rather choose, And fearless all for this I lose; God help me thus to conquer! All has its day, the proverb saith: This is my faith, Thou, Christ, wilt be beside me, And look on all this pain of mine As were it Thine, When sharpest woes betide me; Must I then tread this path -- I yield; World, as thou wilt, God is my shield, And He will rightly guide me!

Songs of the Cross In Outward and Inward Distress

II.

In Outward and Inward Distress From the Dark Times of the Thirty Years' War. 8,6,8,6,6 O Christe Morgensterne [350]Anon. O Christ, Thou bright and Morning Star, Now shed Thy light abroad; Shine on us from Thy throne afar In this dark place, dear Lord, With Thy pure glorious word. O Jesus, Comfort of the poor, I lift my heart to Thee, I know Thy mercies still endure And Thou wilt pity me; I trust alone to Thee. I cannot rest, I may not sleep, No joy or peace I know, My soul is torn with anguish deep And fears a deeper woe; O Christ, Thy pity show! For Thou didst suffer for my soul, Her burdens to remove; Oh make me through Thy sorrows whole, Refresh me with Thy love; Lord, help me from above. Then Jesus, glory, honour, praise, I'll ever sing to Thee; Increase my faith that Thou wilt raise Me once where I shall see Eternal joys with Thee!

Songs of the Cross The only Refuge in Time of Trouble.

III.

The only Refuge in Time of Trouble. 8,8,8,8 Wenn wir in höchsten Nöthen sein [352]Paul Eber.1511-1569. When in the hour of utmost need We know not where to look for aid, When days and nights of anxious thought Nor help nor counsel yet have brought: Then this our comfort is alone, That we may meet before Thy throne, And cry, O faithful God, to Thee For rescue from our misery: To Thee may raise our hearts and eyes, Repenting sore with bitter sighs, And seek Thy pardon for our sin, And respite from our griefs within: For Thou hast promised graciously To hear all those who cry to Thee, Through Him whose Name alone is great, Our Saviour and our Advocate. And thus we come, O God, to-day, And all our woes before Thee lay, For tried, forsaken, lo! we stand, Perils and foes on every hand. Ah hide not for our sins Thy face, Absolve us through Thy boundless grace, Be with us in our anguish still, Free us at last from every ill. That so with all our hearts we may Once more our glad thanksgivings pay, And walk obedient to Thy word, And now and ever praise the Lord.

Songs of the Cross Under a Heavy Private Cross or Bereavement.

IV.

Under a Heavy Private Cross or Bereavement. 8,6,8,6,8,8,6 Ach treuer Gott, barmherzigs Herz [354]Paul Gerhardt. 1606-1676. O Faithful God! O, pitying Heart, Whose goodness hath no end; I know this cross with all its smart Thy hand alone doth send! Yes, Lord, I know it is Thy love, Not wrath or hatred bids me prove The load 'neath which I bend. 'Twas ever wont with Thee, my God, To chasten oft a son; He whom Thou lovest feels Thy rod, Tears flow ere joy is won; Thou leadest us through darkest pain Back to the joyous light again Thus ever hast Thou done. For e'en the Son Thou most dost love Here trod the path of woe; Ere He might reach His throne above He bore the cross below; Through anguish, scorn, and poverty, Through bitterest death He pass'd, that we The bliss of heaven might know. And if the pure and sinless One Could thus to sorrow bow, Shall I who so much ill have done Resist the cross? O Thou! In whom doth perfect patience shine, Whoe'er would fain be counted Thine Must wear Thy likeness now. Yet, Father, each fresh aching heart Will question in its woe, If Thou canst send such bitter smart And yet no anger know? How long the hours beneath the cross! How hard to learn that love and loss From one sole Fountain flow! But what I cannot, Thou true Good, Oh work Thyself in me; Nor ever let my trials' flood O'erwhelm my faith in Thee; Keep me from every murmur, Lord, And make me steadfast in Thy word, My tower of refuge be! If I am weak, Thy tender care Shall bid me fear no ill; With ceaseless cries and tears and prayer The long sad hours I'll fill; The heart that yet can hope and trust, And cry to Thee, though from the dust, Is all unconquer'd still! O Thou who diedst to give us life, Full well to Thee is known The cross, and all the inner strife Of those who weep alone, And 'neath their burden well-nigh faint; The aching heart's unspoken plaint Finds echo in Thine own. Ah Christ, do Thou within me speak, For Thou canst comfort best; The tower and stronghold of the weak, The weary wanderer's rest, Our shadow in the noon-day hours, And when the tempest round us lowers, Our shelter safe and blest! O Holy Spirit, sent of God, In whom all gladness lies, Refresh my soul, lift off her load, From Thee all sadness flies; Thou know'st the glories yet to come, The joy, the solace, of that home, Where we shall one day rise. There in Thy presence we shall see Glories beyond our ken; The cross known here to none but Thee Shall turn to gladness then; There smiles for all our tears are given, And for our woes the joys of heaven Lord, I believe! Amen!

Songs of the Cross The one True Friend.

V.

The one True Friend. 8,8,8,8,8,8,8,8 Ach Gott wie manches Herzeleid [356]Conrad Hojer.1584. Ah God, my days are dark indeed, How oft this aching heart must bleed, The narrow way, how fill'd with pain That I must pass ere heaven I gain! How hard to teach this flesh and blood To seek alone the Eternal Good! Ah whither now for comfort turn? For Thee, my Jesus, do I yearn, In Thee have I, howe'er distrest, Found ever counsel, aid, and rest; I cannot all forsaken be While still my heart can trust in Thee. Jesus, my only God and Lord, What sweetness in Thy name is stored! So dark and hopeless is no grief But Thy sweet Name can bring relief, So keen no sorrows' rankling dart But Thy sweet Name can heal my heart. The world can show no truth like Thine, And therefore will I not repine; I know Thou wilt forsake me not, Thy truth is fix'd, though dark my lot; Thou art my Shepherd, and Thy sheep From every real harm Thou'lt keep. Jesus, my boast, my light, my joy, The treasure nought can e'er destroy, No words, no song that I can frame Speak half the sweetness of Thy name; They only all its power shall prove Whose hearts have learnt Thy faith and love. How many a time I've sadly said, Far better were it I were dead, Far better ne'er the light to see, If I had not this joy in Thee; For he who hath not Thee in faith, His very life is merely death. Jesus, my Bridegroom, and my crown, If Thou but smile, the world may frown, In Thee lie depths of joy untold, Far richer than her richest gold; Whene'er I do but think of Thee, Thy dews drop down and solace me; Whene'er I hope in Thee, my Friend, Thy comfort and Thy peace descend; Whene'er in grief I pray and sing I feel new courage in me spring; Thy Spirit witnesses that this is foretaste of the eternal bliss. Then while I live this life of care The cross for Thee I'll gladly bear; Grant me a patient willing mood, I know that it shall work my good; Help me to do my talk aright, That it may stand before Thy sight. Let me this flesh and blood controul, From sin and shame preserve my soul, And keep me steadfast in the faith, Then I am Thine in life and death; Jesus, Consoler, bend to me, Ah would I were e'en now with Thee!

Songs of the Cross Under the Pressure of Care or Poverty.

VI.

Under the Pressure of Care or Poverty. Written most probably either during the great Famine in Nuremburg in 1551, or the time of the Siege in 1561. 8,8,6,8,8 Warum betrübst do dich mein Herz [358]Hans Sachs. Why art thou thus cast down, my heart? Why troubled, why dost mourn apart, O'er nought but earthly wealth? Trust in thy God, be not afraid, He is thy Friend who all things made. Dost think thy prayers He doth not heed? He knows full well what thou dost need,And heaven and earth are His;My Father and my God, who stills with my soul in every ill.Since Thou my God and Father art,I know Thy faithful loving heartWill ne'er forget Thy child;See I am poor, I am but dust,On earth is none whom I can trust.The rich man in his wealth confides,But in my God my trust abides;Laugh as ye will, I holdThis one thing fast that He hath taught, -- Who trusts in God shall want for nought.Yes, Lord, Thou art as rich to-dayAs Thou hast been and shalt be aye,I rest on Thee alone;Thy riches to my soul be given,And 'tis enough for earth and heaven.What here may shine I all resign,If the eternal crown be mine,That through Thy bitter deathThou gainedst, O Lord Christ, for meFor this, for this, I cry to Thee!All wealth, all glories, here below,The best that this world can bestow,Silver or gold or lands,But for a little time is given,And helps us not to enter heaven.I thank Thee, Christ, Eternal Lord,That Thou hast taught me by Thy wordTo know this truth and Thee;O grant me also steadfastnessThy heavenly kingdom not to miss.Praise, honour, thanks, to Thee be brought,For all things in and for me wroughtBy Thy great mercy, Christ.This one thing only still I pray,Oh cast me ne'er from Thee away.

Songs of the Cross The Resting-Place amid Changes.

VII.

The Resting-Place amid Changes. 8,8,7,8,8,7 Alles ist an Gottes Segen [360]Anon. in a Nuremberg Hymnbook of 1676. All things hang on our possessing God's free love and grace and blessing, Though all earthly wealth depart; He who God for his hath taken, 'Mid the changing world unshaken Keeps a free heroic heart. He who hitherto hath fed me, And to many a joy hath led me, Is and shall be ever mine; He who did so gently school me, He who still doth guide and rule me, Will not leave me now to pine. Shall I weary me with fretting O'er vain trifles, and regretting Things that never can remain? I will strive but that to win me That can shed true rest within me, Rest the world must seek in vain. When my heart with longing sickens, Hope again my courage quickens, For my wish shall be fulfill'd, If it please His love most tender; Life and soul I all surrender Unto Him on whom I build. Well He knows how best to grant me All the longing hopes that haunt me, All things have their proper day; I would dictate to Him never, As God wills so be it ever, When He wills, I will obey. If on earth He bids me linger, He will guide me with His finger Through the years that now look dim; All that earth has fleets and changes As a river onward ranges, But I rest in peace on Him.

Songs of the Cross Rest in the Lord.

VIII.

Rest in the Lord. 8,8,8,8,8,8 Mein Gott bei dir ist alle Fülle [362]Anon. My God, in Thee all fulness lies, All want in me, from Thee apart; In Thee my soul hath endless joys, In me is but an aching heart; Poor as the poorest here I pine, In Thee a heavenly kingdom's mine. Thou seest whatsoe'er I need, Thou seest it, and pitiest me; Thy swift compassions hither speed, Ere yet my woes are told to Thee; Thou hearest, Father, ere we cry, Shall I not still before Thee lie? I leave to Thee whate'er is mine, And in Thy will I calmly rest; I know that richest gifts are Thine, Thou canst and Thou wilt make me blest, For Thou hast promised, and our Lord Will never break His promised word. Thou lov'st me, Father, with the love Wherewith Thou lovedst Christ Thy Son, And so a brightness from above Still glads me though my tears may run, For in Thy love I find and know What all the world could ne'er bestow. Then I can let the world go by, And yet be still and rest in Thee, I sit, I walk, I stand, I lie, Thou ever watchest over me, And when the yoke is pressing sore I think, my God lives evermore!

Songs of the Cross The Christian's Confidence.

IX.

The Christian's Confidence. Probably by Joachim Magdeburg, a Pastor who died in 1560 -- long a favourite Hymn at death-beds; said to be found in a stained glass window in Nordhausen with the date 1592, printed at latest 1598. 8,7,8,7 Wer Gott vertraut hat wohl gebaut Who puts his trust in God most just Hath built his house securely; He who relies on Jesus Christ, Shall reach His heaven most surely: Then fix'd on Thee my trust shall be, For Thy truth cannot alter; While mine Thou art, not death's worst smart Shall make my courage falter. Though fiercest foes my course oppose, A dauntless front I'll show them; My champion Thou, Lord Christ, art now, Who soon shalt overthrow them! And if but Thee I have in me With Thy good gifts and Spirit, Nor death nor hell, I know full well, Shall hurt me, through Thy merit. I rest me here without a fear, By Thee shall all be given That I can need, O Friend indeed, For this life or for heaven. O make me true, my heart renew, My soul and flesh deliver! Lord, hear my prayer, and in Thy care Keep me in peace for ever.

Songs of the Cross Childlike Submission.

X.

Childlike Submission. 8,8,8,8,4 Was Gott gefallt o frommes Kind [365]Paul Gerhardt.1653. What pleases God, O pious soul, Accept with joy, though thunders roll And tempests lower on every side, Thou knowest nought can thee betide But pleases God. The best will is our Father's will, And we may rest there calm and still, Oh make it hour by hour thine own,And wish for nought but that aloneWhich pleases God.His thought is aye the wisest thought,How oft man's wisdom comes to nought,Mistake or weakness in it lurks,It brings forth ill, and seldom worksWhat pleases God.His mind is aye the gentlest mind,His will and deeds are ever kind,He blesses when against us speaksThe evil world, that rarely seeksWhat pleases God.His heart is aye the truest heart,He bids all grief and harm depart,Defending, shielding day and nightThe man who knows and loves arightWhat pleases God.He governs all things here below,In Him lie all our weal and woe,He bears the world within His hand,And so to us bear sea and landWhat pleases God.And o'er His little flock He yearns,And when to evil ways it turns,The Father's rod oft smiteth sore,Until it learns to do once moreWhat pleases God.What most would profit us He knows,And ne'er denies aught good to thoseWho with their utmost strength pursueThe right, and only care to doWhat pleases God.If this be so, then World, from meKeep if thou wilt, what pleases thee;But thou, my soul, be well contentWith God and all things He hath sent;As pleases God.And must thou suffer here and there,Cling but the firmer to His care,For all things are beneath His sway,And must in very truth obeyWhat pleases God.True faith will grasp His mercy fast,And hope bring patience at the last,Then both within thy heart enshrine,So shall the heritage be thineThat pleases God.To thee for ever shall be givenA kingdom and a crown in heaven,And there shall be fulfill'd in thee,And thou shalt taste and hear and seeWhat pleases God.

Songs of the Cross The quiet hoping Heart.

XI.

The quiet hoping Heart. Written for the comfort of a Sick Friend, who set it to Music, and on his recovery frequently caused it to be sung before his house by the School-Choir. 8,6,8,6,4,4,8,8
Was Gott thut das ist wohlgethan [367]S. Rodigast. 1675. Whate'er my God ordains is right, His will is ever just; Howe'er He order now my cause I will be still and trust. He is my God, Though dark my road, He holds me that I shall not fall, Wherefore to Him I leave it all. Whate'er my God ordains is right, He never will deceive; He leads me by the proper path, And so to Him I cleave, And take content What He hath sent; His hand can turn my griefs away, And patiently I wait His day. Whate'er my God ordains is right, He taketh thought for me, The cup that my Physician gives No poison'd draught can be, But medicine due; For God is true, And on that changeless truth I build, And all my heart with hope is fill'd. Whate'er my God ordains is right, Though I the cup must drink That bitter seems to my faint heart, I will not fear nor shrink; Tears pass away With dawn of day, Sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart, And pain and sorrow all depart. Whate'er my God ordains is right, My Light, my Life is He, Who cannot will me aught but good, I trust Him utterly; For well I know, In joy or woe, We once shall see as sunlight clear How faithful was our Guardian here. Whate'er my God ordains is right, Here will I take my stand; Though sorrow, need, or death make earth For me a desert land, My Father's carels round me there, He holds me that I shall not fall, And so to Him I leave it all.

Songs of the Cross The Courage of perfect Trust.

XII.

The Courage of perfect Trust. 7,7,7,7,7,7 Warum sollt ich mich denn grämen. [369]Paul Gerhardt.1653. Wherefore should I grieve and pine? Is not Christ the Lord still mine? Who can sever me from Him? Who can rob me of the heaven Which the Son of God hath given Unto faith though weak and dim? Naked, helpless, was I born When my earliest breath was drawn,Naked must I wander forth,As a shadow flits awayAt the coming of the day,Bearing nought with me from earth.Soul and body, life and goods,Are not mine, are only God's,Given me by His loving will;Would He take back aught of His,Let Him take it, not for thisShall my song of praise be still.Sendeth He some cross to bear,Cometh sorrow, need, or care,Shall it all my peace destroy?He who sends can end it too,Well He knows in season due,How to turn my griefs to joy.Many a day of happinessHath He sent who loves to bless,Shall I not bear aught for God?He is kind, we know that HeNe'er forsakes us utterly,Love lies hidden in His rod.What is there my foes can do,Though they be nor weak nor few,Save to scorn and mock my woe?Let them laugh, and let them mock,God my Saviour and my RockSoon shall all their schemes o'erthrow.With a glad and fearless mienShould a Christian man be seen,Wheresoe'er be cast his lot;Yea, though death seem close at hand,Calm and quiet let him stand,And his spirit tremble not.Him no death has power to kill,But from many a dreaded illBears his spirit safe away:Shuts the door of bitter woes,Opens yon bright path that glowsWith the light of perfect day.There in deepest joy my heartShall be heal'd from all the smartOf the wounds that pierced it here;Here can no true good be found,Seeming goods that here aboundIn a moment disappear.Wealth that this world can command,Is it aught but barren sand,Bringing cares and troubles sore?There, there are the gifts unpricedWhere my Shepherd Jesus ChristShall refresh me evermore.Fount of joy, my Lord Divine,Thine I am, and Thou art mine,Nought can part my soul from Thee;I am Thine, for Thou didst giveOnce Thy life that I might live,Dearly didst Thou purchase me.Thou art mine, because my heartNe'er will let Thee more depart,Clings to Thee her joy, her light;Bring me, bring me to that placeWhere, enclasped in Thine embrace,Love at last is blest with sight.

Songs of the Cross The Sufficiency of God.

XIII.

The Sufficiency of God. 7,7,7,7 Sollt es denn bisweilen scheinen [371]C. Titius.1641-1703. Seems it in my anguish lone, As though God forsook His own, Yet I hold this knowledge fast, God will surely help at last. Though awhile it be delay'd He denieth not His aid; Though it come not oft with speed, It will surely come at need.As a father not too soonGrants his child the long'd-for boon,So our God gives when He will;Wait His leisure and be still.I can rest in thoughts of Him,When all courage else grows dim,For I know my soul shall proveHis is more than father's love.Would the powers of ill affright,I can smile at all their might;Or the cross be pressing sore,God, my God, lives evermore!Man may hate me causelessly,Man may plot to ruin me,Foes my heart may pierce and rend;God in heaven is still my Friend.Earth may all her gifts deny,Safe my treasure still on high,And if heaven at last be mine,All things else I can resign.I renounce thee willingly,World, I hate what pleases thee,Baneful every gift of thine,Only be my God still mine.Ah Lord, if but Thee I haveNought of other good I crave,Bright is even death's dark road,If but Thou art there, my God.

THE FINAL CONFLICT AND HEAVEN. I know my end must surely come

[372]1. I know my end must surely come

[373]2. Who knows how near my end may be?

[374]3. World, farewell! Of thee I'm tired

[375]4. My cause is God's, and I am still

[376]5. O Lord my God, I cry to Thee

[377]6. Lord Jesus Christ, my Life, my Light

[378]7. Lord God, now open wide Thy heaven

[379]8. Lord, now let Thy servant

[380]9. When now at last the hour is come

[381]10. Jerusalem, thou city fair and high

[382]11. Now fain my joyous heart would sing

[383]12. Wake, awake, for night is flying

[384]13. When the Lord recalls the banish'd

The Final Conflict and Heaven The Uncertainty of Life.

I.

The Uncertainty of Life. 8,8,8,8,8,8 Ich weiss es wird mein Ende kommen [386]Salomo Franck.1711. I know my end must surely come, But know not when or where or how, It may be I shall hear my doom To-night, to-morrow, nay or now Ere yet the present hour is fled, This living body may be dead. Lord Jesus, let me daily die, And at the last Thy presence give,Then Death his utmost power may try,He can but make me truly live,Then welcome my last hour shall be,When, where, and how it pleases Thee.

The Final Conflict and Heaven Preparation for Death.

II.

Preparation for Death. Said to be written on occasion of the sudden death of Duke George of Saxe-Eisenach, while hunting. 8,8,8,8,8,8 Wer weiss wie nahe mir mein Ende [388]Emilia Juliana, Countess of Schwarzburg Rudolstadt.1686. Who knows how near my end may be? Time speeds away, and Death comes on; How swiftly, ah! how suddenly, May Death be here, and Life be gone! My God, for Jesu's sake I pray Thy peace may bless my dying day. The world that smiled when morn was come May change for me ere close of eve; So long as earth is still my home In peril of my death I live; My God, for Jesu's sake I pray Thy peace may bless my dying day. Teach me to ponder oft my end, And ere the hour of death appears, To cast my soul on Christ her Friend, Nor spare repentant cries and tears; My God, for Jesu's sake I pray Thy peace may bless my dying day. And let me now so order all, That ever ready I may be To say with joy, whate'er befall, Lord, do Thou as Thou wilt with me My God, for Jesu's sake I pray Thy peace may bless my dying day. Let heaven to me be ever sweet, And this world bitter let me find, That I, 'mid all its toil and heat, May keep eternity in mind; My God, for Jesu's sake I pray Thy peace may bless my dying day. O Father, cover all my sins With Jesu's merits, who alone The pardon that I covet wins, And makes His long-sought rest my own; My God, for Jesu's sake I pray Thy peace may bless my dying day. His sorrows and His cross I know Make death-beds soft, and light the grave, They comfort in the hour of woe, They give me all I fain would have; My God, for Jesu's sake I pray Thy peace may bless my dying day. From Him can nought my soul divide, Nor life nor death can part us now; I lay my hand upon His side, And say, My Lord and God art Thou; My God, for Jesu's sake I pray Thy peace may bless my dying day. In holy baptism long ago, I join'd me to the living Vine, Thou lovest me in Him, I know, In Him Thou dost accept me Thine; My God, for Jesu's sake I pray Thy peace may bless my dying day. And I have eaten of His flesh And drunk His blood, -- nor can I be Forsaken now, nor doubt afresh, I am in Him and He in me; My God, for Jesu's sake I pray Thy peace may bless my dying day. Then death may come or tarry yet, I know in Christ I perish not, He never will His own forget, He gives me robes without a spot; My God, for Jesu's sake I pray Thy peace may bless my dying day. And thus I live in God at peace, And die without a thought of fear, Content to take what God decrees, For through His Son my faith is clear, His grace shall be in death my stay, And peace shall bless my dying day.

The Final Conflict and Heaven A Weary Pilgrim's Song.

III.

A Weary Pilgrim's Song. 8,7,8,7,7,7,7,7 Welt, lebwohl, ich bin dein müde [390]J. G. Albinus.1652.
World, farewell! Of thee I'm tired, Now toward heaven my way I take; There is peace the
long-desired, Lofty calm that nought can break; World, with thee is war and strife, Thou with
cheating hopes art rife, But in heaven is no alloy, Only peace and love and joy. When I reach that
home of gladness, I shall feel no more this load, Feel no sickness, want, or sadness, Resting in the
arms of God. In the world woes follow fast, And a bitter death comes last, But in heaven shall nought
destroy Endless peace and love and joy. What are earthly joys? a weary Chase of mist, or
wind-borne foam! In this desert black and dreary Sins and vices have their home; Thine, O World,
are war and strife, Mocking pleasures, dying life; But in heaven is no annoy, Only peace and love
and joy. Oh the music and the singing Of the host redeem'd by love! Oh the hallelujahs
ringing Through the halls of light above! Thine, O World, the scornful sneer, Misery thy reward, and
fear; But in heaven is no annoy, Only peace and love and joy. Here is nought but care and
mourning, Comes a joy, it will not stay; Fairly shines the sun at dawning, Night will soon o'ercloud
the day; World, with thee we weep and pine, Gnawing care and grief are thine; But in heaven is no
alloy, Only peace and love and joy. Onwards then! not long I wander, Ere my Saviour comes for
me, And with Him abiding yonder All His glory I shall see; For there's nought but sorrow here, Toil
and pain and many a fear, But in heaven is no annoy, Only peace and love and joy. Well for him
whom death has landed Safely on yon blessed shore, Where in joyful worship banded, Sing the
faithful evermore; For the world hath strife and war, All her works and hopes they mar, But in heaven
is no annoy, Only peace and love and joy. Time, thou speedest on but slowly, Hours, how tardy is
your pace, Ere with Him the High and Holy! I hold converse face to face; World, with partings thou art
rife, Fill'd with tears and storms and strife; But in heaven can nought destroy Endless peace and
love and joy. Therefore will I now prepare me, That my work may stand His doom, And when all is
sinking round me, I may hear not "Go" -- but "Come!" World, the voice of grief is here, Outward
seeming, care, and fear, But in heaven is no alloy, Only peace and love and joy!

The Final Conflict and Heaven In Time of dangerous Duty.

IV.

In Time of dangerous Duty. 8,8,8,4,8 Ich hab mein Sach Gott heirngestellt [392]J. Pappus.1598.
My cause is God's, and I am still, Let Him do with me as He will; Whether for me the fight is won,
Or scarce begun, I ask no more -- His will be done! My sins are more than I can bear, Yet not for
this will I despair, I know to death and to the graveThe Father gaveHis dearest Son, that He might
save.In Him my Saviour I abide,I know for all my sins He died,And risen again to work my
good,The burning floodHath quench'd with His most precious blood.To Him I live and die
alone,Death cannot part Him from His own;Living or dying I am HisWho only isOur comfort, and
our gate of bliss.This is my solace, day by day,When snares and death beset my way,I know that
at the morn of doomFrom out the tombWith joy to meet Him I shall come.Then I shall see God face
to face,I doubt it not, through Jesu's grace,Amid the joys prepared for me!Thanks be to TheeWho
givest us the victory!O Jesus Christ, Thou Son of God,Who once for me didst bear the rod,Ah hide
me in Thy wounded heartWhen I depart;My help, my hope, Thou only art!Amen, dear God! now
send us faith,And at the last a happy death;And grant us all ere long to beln heaven with Thee,To
praise Thee there eternally.

The Final Conflict and Heaven In the near prospect of Death.

V.

In the near prospect of Death. 8,8,8,8,8,8 O Herre Gott ich ruf zu dir [394]Nicholas Selnecker.1587. O Lord my God, I cry to Thee, In my distress Thou helpst me; To Thee myself I all commend, Oh swiftly now Thine angel send To guide me home, and cheer my heart, Since Thou dost call me to depart! O Jesu Christ, Thou Lamb of God, Once slain to take away our load,Now let Thy cross, Thine agony,Avail to save and solace me;Thy death to open heaven, and thereBid me the joy of angels share.O Holy Spirit, at the end,Sweet Comforter, be Thou my Friend!When death and hell assail me sore,Leave me, oh leave me, nevermore,But bear me safely through that strife,As Thou hast promised, into life!

The Final Conflict and Heaven In Weakness and Distress of Mind.

VI.

In Weakness and Distress of Mind. 8,8,8,8 Herr Jesu Christ mein Lebens Licht [396]M. Behemb.1606. Lord Jesus Christ, my Life, my Light, My strength by day, my trust by night, On earth I'm but a passing guest, And sorely with my sins oppress'd. Far off I see my fatherland, Where through Thy grace I hope to stand, But ere I reach that Paradise A weary way before me lies. My heart sinks at the journey's length, My wasted flesh has little strength, Only my soul still cries in me, Lord, fetch me home, take me to Thee! Oh let Thy sufferings give me power To meet the last and darkest hour; Thy prayer refresh and comfort me, Thy bonds and fetters set me free! That thirst and bitter draught of Thine Help me to bear with patience mine, Thy piercing cry avail my soul, When floods of anguish o'er me roll! And when my lips grow white and chill, Thy Spirit cry within me still, And help my soul Thy heaven to find, When these poor eyes grow dark and blind! And when the spirit flies away, Thy parting words shall be my stay, Thy cross the staff whereon I lean, My couch the grave where Thou hast been. Since Thou hast died, the Pure, the Just, I take my homeward way in trust, The gates of heaven, Lord, open wide, When here I may no more abide. And when the last great Day is come, And Thou our Judge shalt speak the doom, Let me with joy behold the light, And set me then upon Thy right. Renew this wasted flesh of mine, That like the sun it there may shine, Among the angels pure and bright, Yea, like Thyself in glorious light. Ah then I have my heart's desire, When singing with the angels' choir, Among the ransom'd of Thy grace, For ever I behold Thy face!

The Final Conflict and Heaven Resignation.

VII.

Resignation. 8,6,8,6,4,4,8,8,8 Herr Gott nun schleuss dein Himmel auf [398]T. Kiel.1620. Lord God, now open wide Thy heaven, My parting hour is near; My course is run, enough I've striven Enough I've suffer'd here; Weary and sad My soul is glad That she may lay her down to rest; Now all on earth I can resign,But only let Thy heaven be mine.As Thou, Lord, hast commanded me,Have I with perfect faithEmbraced my Saviour, and to Theel calmly look in death;With willing heartI hence depart,I hope to stand before Thy face:Yes, all on earth I can resign,If but Thy heaven at last be mine.Then let me go like SimeonIn peace with Thee to dwell,For I commend me to Thy Son,And He will guard me well,And guide me straightTo the golden gate;And in this hope I calmly die;Yes, all on earth I can resign,If but Thy heaven may now be mine.

The Final Conflict and Heaven The Faithful Servant Longing for Peace.

VIII.

The Faithful Servant Longing for Peace. 6,5,6,5,7,7 Herr nun lass in Friede [400]David Böhme.1605-1657. Lord, now let Thy servant Pass in peace away; I have had enough of life, Here I would not stay: Let me go, if such Thy will, With a heart at rest and still. Here, Lord, have I wrestled, Suffer'd many a woe,Fought as fearless warriors fight,Conquer'd many a foe,Kept the faith with them of old,Help'd to guard and warn Thy fold.Many an hour of sorrow,Many an anguish'd tear,Many a thorny path was mineWith Thy people here;O'er my sins I've had to mourn,Many a cross and trial borne.All at last is ended,Fight and race are o'er,God will free me from all illsNow for evermore;To a better life I go,Than this tearful earth can show.Peace shall I find yonder,And be free from sin,No more strife and wars without,No more foes within,All around me shall be peace,And the joy that cannot cease.Where they bear the sceptre,There a crown for mels laid up through Jesu's grace,Bright that crown shall be:Deepest calm my soul shall fill,And this longing shall be still.My Redeemer liveth,He shall bid me riseFrom the gloomy realm of death,There all sorrow lies,And I need not fear to wake,Since His voice my sleep shall break.He will change this body,Make it like His own,When the dead arise from earth,When the trump is blown,I shall see Him face to face,Here my steadfast hope I place.Therefore of His mercyEver will I sing,All my heart and soul to HimPraise and thanks shall bring;Praise Him now, and praise Him then,When the heavens shall cry, Amen!

The Final Conflict and Heaven The Christian Soldier rejoicing that he has overcome.

IX.

The Christian Soldier rejoicing that he has overcome. 8,8,8,8 So ists an dem dass ich mit Freude
[402]Spener.1676. When now at last the hour is come, That I have long'd for many a time, When
God with joy should call me home From this strange land, this wintry clime; Thy victim, Death,
escapes no more, The hour draws on when I shall be From all the bonds of earth set free, And
life's long battle shall be o'er.To combat for His glory hereThe Father sent me forth; -- and lo!The
hour of victory draws near,And conquer'd now is every foe;And I have borne me in the strifeAs true
and fearless warriors ought,And bravely to the last have foughtThrough all the wars and woes of
life.My cry, when rough the march and dark,Was, watch and strive till thou hast won,Press forward
fearless to the mark!As now, thank God, at last I've done.Now it is o'er, I cannot miss;Through
every danger to the deathTrue to my Lord I've kept the faith,And freely risk'd all else for this.It
lacketh now a few short hours,And I am in eternity;The wreath of fadeless heavenly flowersIs
twined already there for me,The crown is waiting for me there,Until the fight is wholly fought,And
all my soul is thither caught,Where shining palms the conquerors bear.But when that morning shall
appear,When our great judge, the Son of God,Shall give to those who loved Him hereTheir
gracious undeserved reward,Then in the glorious halls above,I too among that host shall
stand,And take from His all-faithful handThe crown of righteousness and love.Nor shall I yonder
stand alone,I see the crownèd host appear,The mighty host before His throne,Who shine for ever
pure and clear,The souls of those, who on their wayStill hour by hour were longing here,With
burning love, and many a tear,To see the glories of His Day.

The Final Conflict and Heaven Jerusalem.

X.

Jerusalem. 10,6,10,6,7,6,7,6 Jerusalem du hochgebaute Stadt [404]J. M. Meyfart.1634.
Jerusalem, thou city fair and high, Would God I were in thee! My longing heart fain fain to thee
would fly, It will not stay with me; Far over vale and mountain, Far over field and plain, It hastes to
seek its Fountain And quit this world of pain.Oh happy day, and yet far happier hour,When wilt
thou come at last?When fearless to my Father's love and power,Whose promise standeth fast,My
soul I gladly render,For surely will His handLead her with guidance tenderTo heaven her
fatherland.A moment's space, and gently, wondrously,Released from earthly ties,The fiery chariot
bears her up to theeThrough all these lower skies,To yonder shining regions,While down to meet
her comeThe blessed angel legions,And bid her welcome home.Oh hail thou glorious city! now
unfoldThe gates of grace to me!How many a time I long'd for thee of old,Ere yet I was set
freeFrom yon dark life of sadness,Yon world of shadowy nought,And God had given the
gladness,The heritage I sought.Oh what the nation, what the glorious host,Comes sweeping
swiftly down?The chosen ones on earth who wrought the most,The Church's brightest crown,Our
Lord hath sent to meet me,As in the far-off yearsTheir words oft came to greet meIn yonder land of
tears.The Patriarchs' and Prophets' noble train,With all Christ's followers true,Who bore the cross,
and could the worst disdainThat tyrants dared to do,I see them shine for ever,All-glorious as the
sun,'Mid light that fadeth never,Their perfect freedom won.And when within that lovely Paradise
At last I safely dwell,From out my blissful soul what songs shall rise,What joy my lips shall tell,
While holy saints are singingHosannas o'er and o'er,Pure Hallelujahs ringingAround me
evermore.Innumerous choirs before the shining throneTheir joyful anthems raise,Till Heaven's
glad halls are echoing with the toneOf that great hymn of praise,And all its host rejoices,
And all its blessed throngUnite their myriad voicesIn one eternal song!

The Final Conflict and Heaven The new Heavens and new Earth.

XI.

The new Heavens and new Earth. 8,6,8,6 Herzlich thut mich erfreuen [406]J. Walther.1557. Now
fain my joyous heart would sing That lovely summer-time, When God reneweth everything In His
celestial prime; When He shall make new heavens and earth, And all the creatures there Shall
spring from out that second birth All-glorious, pure, and fair.The perfect beauty of that sphereNo
mortal tongue may speak,We have no likeness for it here,Our words are far too weak;And we must
wait till we beholdThe hour of judgment true,That to the soul shall all unfoldWhat God is, and can
do.For God ere long will summon allWho once on earth were born,This flesh shall hear the
trumpet's callAnd live again that morn,And when in Christ His Son we wake,These skies asunder
roll,And all the bliss of heaven shall breakUpon the raptured soul.And He will lead the white-robed
throngTo His fair Paradise,Where from the marriage-feast the songOf endless praise shall
rise,And from His fathomless abyssOf perfect love and truth,Shall flow perpetual joy and bliss,In
never-ending youth.Ah God, now lead me of Thy loveThrough this dark world aright;Lord Christ
defend me lest I rove,Or lies delude my sight;And keep me steadfast in the faithTill these dark
days have ceased,And ready still in life or deathFor Thy great marriage-feast.And herewith will I
end the songOf that fair summer-time;The blossoms shall burst out ere longOf heaven's eternal
prime,The year begin, for ever new;God grant us then on highTo see our vision here made
true,And eat the fruits of joy!

The Final Conflict and Heaven The Final

XII.

The Final 8,9,8,8,9,8,6,6,4,8,8 Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme [408]Philip Nicolai.1598. Wake, awake, for night is flying, The watchmen on the heights are crying; Awake, Jerusalem, at last! Midnight hears the welcome voices, And at the thrilling cry rejoices: Come forth, ye virgins, night is past. The Bridegroom comes, awake, Your lamps with gladness takeHallelujah!And for His marriage-feast prepare,For ye must go to meet Him there.Zion hears the watchmen singing,And all her heart with joy is springing,She wakes, she rises from her gloom;For her Lord comes down all-glorious,The strong in grace, in truth victorious,Her Star is risen, her Light is come!Ah come, Thou blessed One,God's own Beloved Son,Hallelujah!We follow till the halls we seeWhere Thou hast bid us sup with Thee!Now let all the heavens adore Thee,And men and angels sing before TheeWith harp and cymbal's clearest tone;Of one pearl each shining portal,Where we are with the choir immortalOf angels round Thy dazzling throne;Nor eye hath seen, nor earHath yet attain'd to hearWhat there is ours,But we rejoice, and sing to TheeOur hymn of joy eternally.

The Final Conflict and Heaven The End.

XIII.

The End. 8,7,8,7,7,7,8,8 Wann der Herr einst die Gefangenen [410]S. G. Bürde.1794. When the Lord recalls the banish'd, Frees the captives all at last, Every sorrow will have vanish'd Like a dream when night is past; Then shall all our hearts rejoice, And with glad resounding voice We shall praise the Lord who sought us, For the freedom He hath wrought us.Lift Thy hand to aid us, Father,Look an us who widely roam,And Thy scatter'd children gatherIn their long'd-for promised home;Steep and weary is the way,Shorten Thou the sultry day,Faithful warriors hast Thou found us,Let Thy peace for aye surround us.In that peace we reap in gladnessWhat was sown in tearful showers:There the fruit of all our sadnessRipens, -- there the palm is ours;There our God upon His thronels our full reward alone;They who all for God surrenderBring their sheaves in heavenly splendour.

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