

Remembering Our Call

November 8, 2020
MUSIC

Hymn of Praise

Come! Live in the Light! We Are Called

Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called
to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom
of the city of God.

Refrain:

We are called to act with justice;
we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called
to be hope for the hopeless
so hatred and violence
will be no more. (*Refrain*)

TEXT: David Haas, 1988 / TUNE: WE ARE CALLED

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

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Hymn of Preparation

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

Called as partners in Christ's service,
called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment
fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring
to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering,
reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together
gracious gifts from God unfold.

TEXT: Jane Parker Huber, 1981 / MUSIC: BEECHER

This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

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Offertory Hymn

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.

TEXT: Washington Gladden, 1879 / TUNE: MARYTON

In honestly admitting the limits of human ability, this prayerful hymn does not seek a sense of God's presence for self-comfort but for strength and companionship in pursuing the tasks that God sets before us. The author specifically chose this tune to accompany his words.

Take My Life and Let It Be

Text: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874

"I went for a little visit of five days," wrote Frances Havergal, explaining what prompted her to write her well-known hymn, "Take My Life and Let it Be."

"There were ten persons in the house; some were unconverted and long prayed for, some converted but not rejoicing Christians. [God] gave me the prayer, 'Lord, give me all in this house.' And He just did. Before I left the house, everyone got a blessing. The last night of my visit I was too happy to sleep and passed most of the night in renewal of my consecration, and those little couplets formed themselves and chimed in my heart one after another till they finished with "ever only, ALL FOR THEE!" It was on this day, February 4, 1874, that Frances wrote the hymn that is still sung around the world.

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Hymn of Sending

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

The Lord now sends us forth
with hands to serve and give,
to make of all the earth
a better place to live.(repeat)

The angels are not sent
into our world of pain
to do what we were meant
to do in Jesus' name;
that falls to you and me
and all who are made free.
Help us, O Lord, we pray,
to do your will today.

TEXT: Jose Aguiar, 20th century
English translation - Gerhard M. Cartford, 1998

TUNE: ENVIADO

This text by a Cuban Pentecostal pastor is plural in the English translation and singular in the original Spanish version; singing both languages helps to show how the call to action in the world is both corporate and individual. The minor tune suggests the resolve needed to do God's work.