

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 13, 2024

Preparation for Worship

A crucial eccentricity of the Christian faith is the assertion that people are saved by grace. There's nothing <u>you</u> have to do. There's nothing you <u>have</u> to do. There's nothing you have to <u>do.</u>

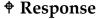
– Frederick Buechner

Opening Voluntary	Prelude in D Minor, Op. 37, No. 3	Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
Greeting		
	Please sign and pass the friendship folder.	
	The Lord be with you. And also with you.	
Introit	Hallelujah (excerpt)	Leonard Cohen (1934-2016)
	Now I've heard there was a secret chord That David played, and it pleased the Lord But you don't really care for music, do you?	
	It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth, The minor fall, the major lift, The baffled king composing "Hallelujah."	
	Hallelujah	
	– Leonard Cohen (1984)	
Opening Sentences		
Hymn 475 (see page 11)	Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing	NETTLETON

Prayer of Confession

O God, in sovereign love you created the world and make everyone equally in your image to live as one community. We confess our rebellion against you. We ignore your commandments. We violate your image in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve your condemnation, but we ask for your forgiveness. O God, have mercy on us. Cleanse us and redeem us and restore us for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

silent prayer



Justin Langham



Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe the Good News. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Response

Justin Langham



† The Peace

Peace be with you. Peace be with all.

Conversation with Children

Afterwards, Children's Chapel meets in Room 203. Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery in Room 106

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

Mark 10: 17-27

N.T. pg. 46

Holy wisdom, holy word. Thanks be to God.

Down in the River to Play

As I went down in the river to pray, Studyin' about that good old way, And who should wear the starry crown, Good Lord, show me the way.

> O sisters, let's go down, Let's go down, come on down, O sisters, let's go down, Down in the river to pray.

> > O brothers... O fathers... O mothers...

- Traditional African American Spiritual

Sermon

And Then?

John W. Wurster

arr. Jace Wittig

silence and stillness

† Hymn 722 (see page 12)

† Affirmation of Faith

Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak

CANONBURY

from A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Stewardship Reflection

Offering

Gifts may be given any time at saintphilip.net

Offertory

Somewhere Over the Rainbow

arr. Israel Kamakawiwo'ole

Somewhere over the rainbow, Way up high, There's a land that I dreamed of Once in a lullaby.

Somewhere over the rainbow, Skies are blue, And the dreams that you dare to Dreams really do come true.

O, someday I'll wish upon a star, And wake up where the clouds are far behind me. Where troubles melt like lemon drops, High above the chimney tops, that's where you'll find me.

> Somewhere over the rainbow, Blue birds fly. Birds fly over the rainbow, Why, then oh, why can't I?

- Harold Arlen & Yip Harburg (1939)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great and loving God, you continue to reach out to us in love, and you promise to be with us in all things. Deepen within us a spirit of thanksgiving that with grateful hearts we may receive the fullness of the life you intend for us in Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. Orlean Anderson

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's worship service includes traditional Negro Spiritual music. The Black composers of this music are unknown to history and therefore unable to receive royalties directed to their estates for the use of their songs. To remedy this inequity, a fund has been created and approved by the Session where we will collect voluntary "royalties" for using this music. Anyone may donate to the fund by going to the <u>saintphilip.net</u> homepage and selecting *Make a Contribution*, then selecting Negro Spirituals as the fund. Members can also access this page on the MyStPhilip app (also linked to from the homepage). You may also contribute by writing a check with *Negro Spirituals* in the memo line and placing it in the offering plate or mailing it to the church office. This small gesture of reparation seeks to help heal the long history of injury to Black persons. Contributions received over the course of the year will be donated annually to a local organization supporting Black musical traditions.

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Job 23:1–9, 16–17 *Job complains bitterly about the absence of God in his suffering.*
- Psalm 22:1-15 My God, why do you forsake me? You lay me in the dust of death.
- Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 Establish justice; seek good and not evil, so that you may live.
- Psalm 90:12–17 Satisfy us with your love, O Lord; prosper the work of our hands.
- Hebrews 4:12–16 The living word of God is our judge; Jesus is our great high priest.
- Mark 10:17-31 For God all things are possible; the last will be first in the kingdom.

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SERVING TODAY

Charge and Blessing

† Hymn 79 (see page 13)

Please be seated in silence for the closing voluntary, or kindly depart quietly.

Voluntary

Pastors

Liturgist

Musicians

Fugue in D Minor, Op. 37, No. 3

Keatan King | John Wurster | Omar Rouchon is on a sabbatical leave until mid-November

Felix Mendelssohn

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Diana Weiss.

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MUSIC NOTES

In the mid 1830s Felix Mendelssohn composed three preludes and fugues for the organ, dedicating this set (Op. 37) to his good friend the English organist Thomas Attwood. These works, which owe much to Mendelssohn's diligent study of similar works by J. S. Bach, are among the first organ monuments of the 19th century. The D-minor Prelude begins rhapsodically, as if Mendelssohn was channeling the old-fashioned Baroque toccata. The main part of the movement, however, is a thoroughgoing exploration of theme whose restless striving increases steadily in rhythmic activity, to a dramatic close. The companion Fugue explores the implications of a theme closely related to many a fugue theme of Bach and his contemporaries, albeit in the tonal language of the 19th century.

As familiar and beloved as any song today, **Hallelujah** by Canadian singer Leonard Cohen achieved very little initial success before exploding in fame after being featured in several prominent films, such as *Shrek* in 2001. Cohen first recorded the song at age 50, expressing a desire to affirm his faith in life, saying, "when one looks at the world, there's only one thing to say, and it's hallelujah." Over the five years spent writing the song, Cohen reportedly penned nearly 80 verses and 180 verse drafts, however today's version will be limited to just the first and most well-known. After the verse, we invite you to join the St. Philip children in singing the timeless refrain, accompanied by ukuleles.

First published in the 1867 collection *Slave Songs of the United States,* the spiritual tune **Down in the River to**

Pray has undergone many musical treatments and variations. Today's version by Jace Wittig relies on a gradual unfolding of layers from soloist to full chorus, including a *divisi* (divided) soprano descant, and percussive elements. Like many other slave songs, the text contains several coded messages, such as the use of the phrase "down IN the river" –rather than its common replacement "down TO the river" – to not only evoke the imagery of a fullimmersion baptism, but also signaling to enslaved people escaping captivity to walk in the river to hide their scent from hunting dogs. Similarly, the phrases "starry crown" and "good Lord, show me the way" refer to navigating by starlight and a prayer for God to guide them towards the escape route.

Much like Cohen's "Hallelujah" and our spiritual anthem, today's offertory also remains a fixture in today's American culture and has received numerous musical interpretations, but none more transformational than the Hawaiian ukulele version by artist Israel Kamakawiwo'ole. First released in 1999, the ukulele version of the classic American song enjoyed a swift rise to global popularity, eventually being inducted into the National Recording Registry that preserves heritage in American recorded sound. Through his genuine spirit, Kamakawiwo'ole succeeded in remaking a classic in his own image that can exist independent from the original, an exceedingly rare and difficult achievement in music and culture.

- Matthew Dirst & Justin Langham

IN OUR PRAYERS

- St. Philippians and their families David Winship; Bob Ardell; Richard Johnson; Philip McDaniel; Charlotte Kibler; Carolyn Vestal; Diane Clarke; Karen Morris; Susan Huffman; Emily Estill; Barbara Cavanaugh; Mary Herlitz; Jan Ostendorf; Dick Nunn; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy E. Johnson; Beverly Baker; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Faith Fugit daughter of Joyce Fugit; Raquel Calhoun -sister-in-law of Pam Keever; Jerry Isbell son-in-law of Bill & Karen Morris; Terese Murphy- cousin of Gary Gardner and Peg Palisin; Guinn Blackwell-Eagleson and partner John Bonica; Sheila Kinsky and her children sister of Bill Connolly; Vera Moore mother of Chuck Johnson; Paige Everhart sister of Nancy E. Johnson; Ann Perenyi mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud cousin of Stephen Paine.
- *Homebound* Elizabeth Arp; Beverly Baker; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Edith Patterson; Joyce Randolf; George and Larraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.
- Friends of St. Philippians Pete & Gloria Benevides, Jay Stokes & Anna Domonte, Carrie Prati & Concepcion ("Concha") Estrada friends of Curt & Sharon Webb; Marianne Hash – friend of Jane Cooper; Annette Covey – friend of Guy & Melissa Aldrich; Stephen Wedemeyer and Mary Watters - friends of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Claude Bowden – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Kenneth and Donna Benton – friends of William Rowe; Tom Barnett - friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach– friends of Stephen Paine; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; and Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge.

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email: deacons@saintphilip.net

Prayer List is a powerful tool for bringing comfort, healing, and peace to those in need. So, let's keep it up to date and continue to lift up our brothers and sisters in prayer.





MISSION COMMITTEE

SEARCH SCATTERED SITE LUNCH AND ACTIVI-TY – Join the mission committee on Friday, **Nov. 15** to host a meal and activity for the homeless clients of SEARCH. Five volunteers will be needed from 10:45 a.m. to 12 p.m. to serve food and lead a bingo game or singalong activity. The lunch will be held at SEARCH Homeless Services office, 2015 Congress St., Houston, TX 77002. Sign up now in the Gathering Area on Sundays or email <u>mission@saintphilip.net</u> if you can serve.

INTERESTED IN JOINING MISSION COMMITTEE IN 2025? If you are interested in serving on Mission Committee next year, you are invited to attend **today** or Sunday, **Nov. 3** meeting in Room 202 of the Education Building to hear what mission committee does monthly for the church. Mission Committee reviews applications from mission partners in the spring and awards grants in March. As well, we host the Alternative Gift Market in November. Every month, Mission Committee provides a service day with one of our local mission partners to give your time and talents to our Houston community in need. Consider joining the Mission Committee beginning in January 2025.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET & SILENT AUC-TION-SAVE THE DATE-Here ye, here ye, get your Christmas shopping done early! The entire St. Philip congregation, visitors to the church, and your friends and family are invited to the 2024 Alternative Gift Market. The market will take place on Sunday, Nov. 10 in the Fellowship Hall between 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. and after church from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. The Alternative Gift Market is an event where St. Philip hosts all our mission partners in one place as well as the St. Philip Stitchers, Equal Exchange selling coffee and chocolate, and other groups. Silent Auction donations are needed to raise money for our mission partners. If you would like to donate an auction item or experience, please contact Sharon Webb at sharonwebb0@gmail.com. You can also drop off the auction item at the Church Office with Lorrie Castle. Thank you for considering donating an item or experience to the Silent Auction. Donations are due by Wednesday, Nov. 5.



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THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO BLUEY OCTOBER 20 TO NOVEMBER 24

9:45 - 10:45 AM Adults: RM 202, Led BY: John Wurster Grades 1-4: RM 204-205 Led BY: Keatan King & Liz Miguez



GET READY FOR TRICK-OR-TREATERS



Kids love to get chocolate for Halloween, and now's a great time to stock up on organic and fairly traded chocolate Minis for the spooky season. Equal Exchange, our partner in the Presbyterian Coffee Project, participates in a fair-trade program to help end the problems of

child labor, family poverty, and environmental destruction that are often endemic in the African cocoa industry, where most commercial chocolate also begins its journey to your supermarket shelves.

You can buy fair-trade chocolate Mini bars to give on Halloween at our pop-up sale on Sunday, **October 27**, in the Gathering Area, before worship. Kid-sized and loved by all, our milk and dark chocolate Minis will be bagged

for your convenience! Limited stock of your other favorite Equal Exchange products will also be available. Help scare off child labor this Halloween!



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES START AT 9:45 A.M. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

GODLY PLAY – Ages 3 – Kindergarten – Room 103

We are offering three cycles of 6-week classes from through December to experiment with increased variety of topics, teachers, and formats in our Sunday School, as well as introducing new opportunities for youth to engage in mission and children to engage in music.

ELEMENTARY—Grades 1-4—ROOM 105— Children will learn the Lord's Prayer with mind and heart. Come October, all ages attend "the Gospel According to Bluey" to pair a Jesus teaching with 2 episodes of Bluey and explore the themes in breakout groups by ages: adults will chat, kids will play.

YOUTH-Grades 5-12-DINING ROOM-Youth families will turn the Sunday School hour into a time to revive the Kids Against Hunger program as leaders in our congregation.

INTRO TO PRESBYTERIANISM-ROOM 202-Back The class concludes today.

CHURCH & SOCIETY–ROOM 201–Join us from 9:30 **a.m.**–10:40 **a.m.** with presentations in person and by Zoom. **Oct. 20** - *The Effect of Early Childhood Education on Children's Health* - In the spring of 2025, the St. Philip Day School will open, to provide excellent faith-based infant and toddler childcare for single parents in need. The daycare program is based on Project One Day, which includes a 30-hour study program for parents who are then able to participate as assistants for one day each week, in order to have free daycare for their children. Julieana will lead us in discovering what a difference it makes for children's health, when they have access to excellent childcare and parents who are well informed about early childhood development. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – ROOM 204 – We are continuing with our study of Job in Dr. Robert Alter's *The Wisdom Books: Job, Prophets and Ecclesiastes* (2010). Join us from 9:30 – 10:40 a.m. to deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to God's people from Dr. Alter's translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL-TODAY–In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples learn the whos, whats, wheres, whens and whys of worship in the chapel, while also praying, seeing and hearing God's word at an ageappropriate level. Children return to join the congregation in the first few pews on the lectern side of the church for the last hymn. Children are able to participate in this during the worship service.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP – Agreeing that a focus on Disinformation is timely and important as the presidential election draws near, the current study book is Barbara McQuade's *Attack from Within; how disinformation is sabotaging America*. This group will meet by zoom on Monday, **Nov. 4**, 7-8 p.m. Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson at <u>sij10223@gmail.com</u>.

LAMBETH STUDY-Keatan King leads young adults in study every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. It is a time of study, reflection, and prayer. If you would like more details, email Keatan King at:

keatan@saintphilip.net.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY – Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster meets weekly at 9:30 a.m., and is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome! To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to:

john@saintphilip.net.

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB – This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **Oct. 10** at 7:00 p.m. We will discuss *The Measure* by Nikki Erlich If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP – Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets each Friday in person in the office Conference Room and via Zoom at 11:45 a.m. We will continue our learning from *They Walked With God* by Max Lucado. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at:

ggardne148@aol.com.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women.

Thursday Evening Circle

meets 1st Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Dining Room. Sarah Victorian <u>sarah.m.0617@gmail.com</u>

Monday Morning Saints-Oct. 14

meets 2nd Monday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Dining Room - Tricia Tolbert phtolbert@gmail.com

The Hallmark Circle

meets 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1:30pm - contact Sue Shirley-Howard <u>sue@fluencyhouston.com</u> for location

Sunday Circle – Oct. 20

meets 3rd Sunday of each month after worship in the Dining Room. Jan Meyer <u>ismeyer9990@gmail.com</u>

One More Chance Study for Everyone - Oct. 27

Meets 4th Sunday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Library. Lee Ardell <u>leeardell@gmail.com</u>



Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

Please register your attendance by scanning the QR code or by visiting the Guest Book tab at saintphlip.net.

AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST, we seek to be an inclusive, grace-filled community, engaging the world with open minds, willing hands and generous hearts. WE LONG for deeper faith, vibrant hope and boundless love for everyone, every day, everywhere.

Thank you for joining us today! We hope that you find our worship together to be joyous, meaningful, and thought-provoking. **Children of all ages** are welcome to worship with their families. Activity bags containing worship aids for children are available in the narthex on the way into the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available throughout the morning from 8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Infants to age 4 are invited to our Nursery which is staffed by professional childcare providers. Please find our Nursery in Room 106 of the Education Building along the Sunday School Classroom hallway on the first floor. An usher or a greeter will be happy to direct you there.

A Hearing Loop is installed within the sanctuary. If you have a hearing aid equipped with a telecoil, please activate your "T switch" to hear the worship service most clearly. If you need assistance with hearing the service clearly and do not have a t-coil equipped hearing aid, please ask an usher for wireless headphones. LARGE PRINT COPIES OF TODAY'S HYMNS ARE IN THE NARTHEX.

Connect with St. Philip through <u>saintphilip.net</u> and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to <u>lorrie@saintphilip.net</u>.

If you are interested in joining St. Philip Presbyterian Church by profession of faith, by reaffirming your faith, or by transferring your membership, please speak with one of the ministers today or call the church office during the week. **The Session meets the third Sunday of each month after the 11:00 worship service in Room 100 for the purpose of receiving new members.**

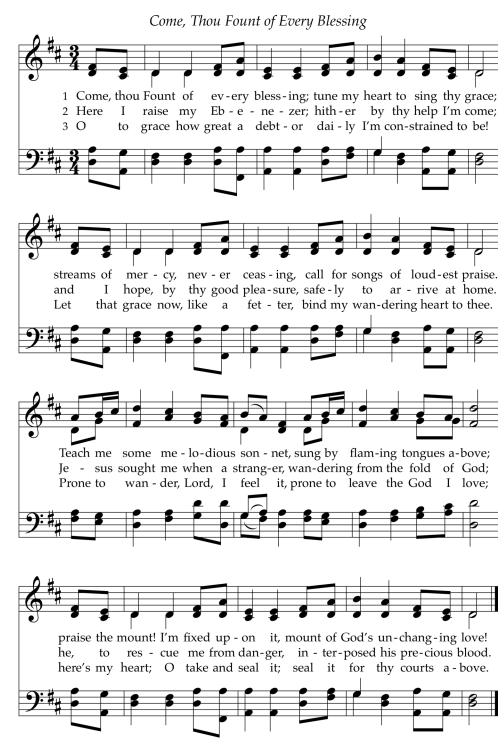
Worship with us, whenever, wherever. Our 11:00 a.m. Sunday service is live-streamed at saintphilip.net. Services can be viewed live or later in our video archives.

Contributions, pledge payments, communion gifts and other donations to support the Church can be made anytime through our website, text "SPPC" to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

Lost & Found – did you leave a pair of glasses, umbrella, or other item during worship? There is a canvas basket in the library where these items may be found. Jewelry, phones and more valuable items are turned into Lorrie Castle in the Church Office, lorrie@saintphilip.net or 713-622-4807.

I Give Electronically—in response to parents' hopes that their children might be able to see their ongoing commitment to St. Philip and with the intent to better represent the totality of our giving as a congregation, we have available in the pews giving cards that can be placed in the offering plate by our electronic givers.





Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

TEXT: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt. MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813 NETTLETON 8.7.8.7.D

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Hymn 475

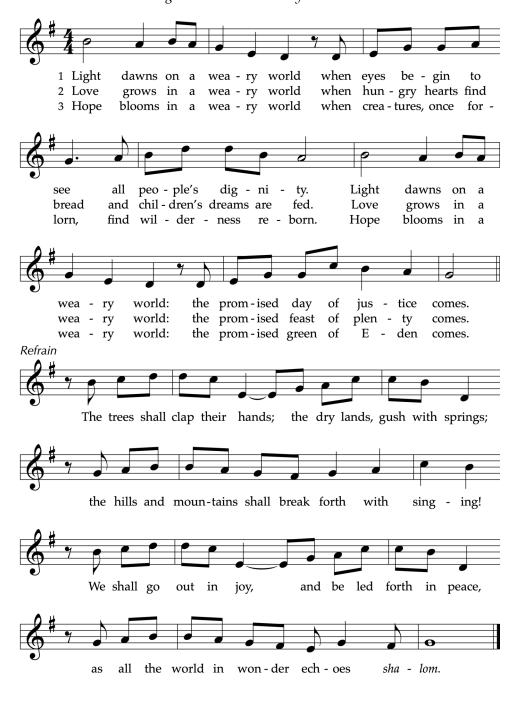
Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak



Two great truths inform this text: first, that the testimony of experience is powerful and persuasive; and second, that no one should venture to minister on one's own strength rather than God's. The tune reflects a 19th-century practice of adapting piano pieces as hymn tunes.

TEXT: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1872, alt. MUSIC: Robert Schumann, 1839, alt. CANONBURY

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This is a hymn whose tune came first. Upon hearing it, the author recalled the watered garden of Isaiah 58:11, which in turn led to Isaiah 55:12, paraphrased in the refrain. Then came the stanzas, organized around their first two words: Light dawns, Love grows, Hope blooms.

TEXT: Mary Louise Bringle, 2001 MUSIC: William P. Rowan, 2000 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc. Music © 2000 William P. Rowan (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) TEMPLE OF PEACE 7.6.6.7.8 with refrain

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