

First Hymn

Come, ye faithful, raise the anthem,
cleave the skies with shouts of praise;
sing to him who found the ransom,
ancient of eternal days,
God eternal, Word incarnate,
whom the heaven of heaven obeys.

Ere he raised the lofty mountains,
formed the seas, or built the sky,
love eternal, free, and boundless,
moved the Lord of life to die,
lifted up the Prince of princes
on the throne of Calvary.

Now on those eternal mountains
stands the sapphire throne, all bright,
with the ceaseless alleluias
which they raise, the sons of light;
Sion's people tell his praises,
victor after hard-won fight.

The Choir sing Psalm 69 - we all sing the response

The Lord hears the needy and does not despise his own.

Offertory hymn

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,

Bring your harps,
and bring your incense,
sweep the string and pour the lay;
let the earth proclaim his wonders,
King of that celestial day;
he the lamb once slain is worthy,
who was dead, and lives for ay.

Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
Laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one,
One in love, and One in splendour,
while unending ages run. Amen.

*Job Hupton 1762-1849 and JM Neale 1818-66
Music Neander*

teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our land, in this our generation,
spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care;
for young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord, for our world; when we disown and doubt him,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain;
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord, for ourselves; in living power remake us,
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne;
past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley-Smith b 1926 Tune: Lord of the Years

Communion Hymn

Father, hear the prayer we offer:
not for ease that prayer shall be,
but for strength that we may ever
live our lives courageously.

Not for ever in green pastures
do we ask our way to be;
but the steep and rugged pathway
may we tread rejoicingly.

Not for ever by still waters
would we idly rest and stay;
but would smite the living fountains
from the rocks along our way.

Be our strength in hours of weakness,
in our wonderings be our guide;
through endeavour, failure, danger,
Father, be thou at our side.

Maria Willis 1824-1908

Music: Sussex

*Walk with me oh my Lord
through the darkest night
and brightest day.*

Final Hymn

Just as you calmed the wind
and walked upon the sea,
conquer, my living Lord,
the storms that threaten me.

Help me to pierce the mists
that cloud my heart and mind

*Be at my side O Lord,
hold my hand and guide me on my way.*

Sometimes the road seems long
my energy is spent.

Then, Lord, I think of you
and I am given strength.

Stones often bar my path
and there are times I fall,
but you are always there
to help me when I call.

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