

All my hope on God is founded  
ELW 757

1. All my hope on God is founded;  
at your word I follow you.  
Though by change and chance I'm bounded,  
you remain the one who's true,  
you unknown,  
you alone,  
hearts possessing as your own.
2. Mortal pride and earthly passion,  
sword and crown betray our trust.  
Things with care and toil we fashion  
fall apart and turn to dust,  
but your pow'r,  
hour by hour,  
is my fortress and my tow'r.
3. Great your goodness, ever mending,  
deep your wisdom, passing thought,  
splendor, beautiful, attending  
light created out of naught.  
You, the more  
to adore,  
new dominions underscore.
4. To the Father, God eternal,  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
to the Spirit, God supernal,  
for the gift of God the Son  
who will call  
one and all  
to the joyful banquet hall.

87 87 337 alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. All my hope on God is founded  
who will all my trust renew,  
who through change and chance will guide me,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown,  
God alone,  
call my heart to be thine own.
2. Mortal pride and earthly glory,  
sword and crown betray our trust;  
what with care and toil we fashion,  
tow'r and temple, fall to dust.  
But thy pow'r,  
hour by hour,  
is my temple and my tow'r.
3. Great thy goodness, e'er enduring;  
deep thy wisdom, passing thought;  
splendor, light, and life attend thee,  
beauty springing out of naught.  
Evermore  
from thy store  
newborn worlds rise and adore.
4. Still from earth to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of God's own Son.  
Christ doth call  
one and all:  
ye who follow shall not fall.

Robert Bridges 1920

# Evening and morning

1-20

ELW 761

1. Starlight arising,  
evening surprising,  
    beauties you're sharing  
    those that are bearing  
fruit that will grow from a branch of the Vine,  
counting by number,  
awake or in slumber,  
    seasons observing,  
    our destiny serving,  
causing your mercy upon us to shine.
2. Lord, I'm revering  
you as you're hearing  
    me in my terror,  
    ever in error,  
that by my faith in your grace may I stand,  
all that I'm doing,  
your labors pursuing,  
    guarding and guiding,  
    your presence abiding,  
as I submit to your fatherly hand.
3. Though I be grieving,  
dangers are leaving,  
    billows that tower,  
    wind and its power,  
as when the tempest is slowing its pace.  
Courage increasing  
with peace never ceasing:  
    these shall I treasure  
    to hold in full measure  
when in your mansions you grant me a place.
4. God who is living  
praises we're giving,  
    pleasures expecting,  
    gladly accepting  
gifts in return for designs of our own:  
creeds we're believing,  
your blessing receiving,  
    hymns that we're singing,  
    with bells that are ringing,  
prayers like an incense that rise to your throne.

1. Evening and morning,  
sunset and dawning,  
    wealth, peace, and gladness,  
    comfort in sadness:  
these are your works, rich in glory divine!  
Times without number,  
awake or in slumber,  
    your eye observes us,  
    from danger preserves us,  
causing your mercy upon us to shine.
2. Gracious Lord, hear me,  
pardon and spare me;  
    calm all my terrors,  
    blot out my errors,  
that justified in your sight I may stand.  
Order my goings,  
direct all my doings;  
    guard me and guide me  
    and stay close beside me;  
all I commit to your fatherly hand.
3. Ills that still grieve me  
soon are to leave me;  
    though billows tower,  
    and winds gain power,  
after the storm the fair sun shows its face.  
Joys e'er increasing  
and peace never ceasing:  
    these shall I treasure  
    and share in full measure  
when in your mansions you grant me a place.
4. To God in heaven  
all praise be given!  
    O God, we offer  
    and gladly proffer  
gifts from you hand; these alone you will prize:  
hearts that receive you  
and faith to believe you;  
    hymns that adore you  
    are precious before you  
and to your throne like sweet incense arise.

If you but trust in God to guide you  
ELW 769

1. If in the hand of God you're trusting,  
as you traverse the narrow way,  
there to the kingdom's reign adjusting,  
there where repentant sinners pray,  
there where unchanging powers prove  
love like a rock will never move.

2. What is the use of anxious weeping,  
helpless remorse or family feuds?  
Secrets of yore are worth the keeping,  
parables and Beatitudes.  
When you surrendered at the cross,  
eased was your load of gain and loss.

3. Hearts that are restless, but beholding  
quietness, may remain content,  
confident every plan's unfolding,  
lit by a Wisdom lately sent,  
rendered by one who shows how grace  
shares in the very fears they face.

4. Pray that you'll be a light unswerving,  
bright as a beacon close to shore.  
Though you are weak and undeserving,  
promises show what faith is for.  
This is our motto cast in stone:  
God is supreme upon the throne.

98 98 98 alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. If you but trust in God to guide you  
with gentle hand through all your ways,  
you'll find that God is there beside you  
when crosses come, in trying days.  
Trust then in God's unchanging love;  
build on the rock that will not move.

2. What gain is there in anxious weeping,  
in helpless anger and distress?  
If you are in your Savior's keeping,  
in sorrow will he love you less?  
For Christ who took for you a cross  
will bring you safe through ev'ry loss.

3. The Lord our restless hearts is holding,  
in peace and quietness content.  
We rest in God's good will unfolding,  
what wisdom from on high has sent.  
God, who has chosen us by grace,  
knows very well the fears we face.

4. Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving,  
offer your service faithfully.  
Trust heaven's word; though undeserving,  
you'll find God's promise true to be.  
This is our confidence indeed:  
God never fails in time of need.

translated from the German 1978

# When memory fades

ELW 792

1. When memory fades  
and recognition falters,  
when eyes grow dim  
and minds become confused,  
we hear you speak  
of love that never alters,  
though hearts by fear  
and pain have been abused.  
O God of health,  
console us with the psalters  
in which we read  
of those who were enthused.

2. As weakness grows  
and youthful strengths diminish  
in hands which worked  
our emptiness to fill,  
as time moves on,  
your servants strive to finish  
their earthly tasks,  
according to your will.  
We grieve their loss  
of full becoming thinnish,  
yet you are there  
in souls believing still.

3. Your Spirit lives  
and goodness is unfading  
in every realm  
uncovered by your Son.  
All joys remain,  
with light the dark invading,  
no valued deed  
will ever be undone.  
As you enfold  
the finitude of aiding,  
within your scheme,  
our life has just begun.

47 46 47 46 47 46 alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. When mem'ry fades,  
and recognition falters,  
when eyes we love  
grow dim, and minds confused,  
speak to our souls  
of love that never alters;  
speak to our hearts,  
by pain and fear abused.  
O God of life  
and healing peace, empow'r us  
with patient cour-  
age, by your grace infused.

2. As frailness grows,  
and youthful strengths diminish,  
in weary arms  
which worked their earnest fill,  
your aging ser-  
vants labor now to finish  
their earthly tasks,  
as fits your mercy's will.  
We grieve their wan-  
ing, yet rejoice, believing,  
your arms, unwea-  
ried, shall up hold us still.

3. Within your Spir-  
it, goodness lives unfading.  
The past and fu-  
ture mingle into one.  
All joys remain,  
unshadowed light pervading.  
No valued deed  
will ever be undone.  
Your mind enfolds  
all finite acts and off'rings.  
Held in your heart,  
our deathless life is won.

11 10 11 10 11 10 Mary Louise Bringle 2002

*Be thou my vision*  
*ELW 793*

1. Lord, be my vision, of morning, the star,  
naught be all else to me, save that you are,  
image of goodness by day and by night,  
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.
2. Wisdom from heaven and Word from above,  
ever beside me, your spirit of love,  
refuge and shelter, my privilege to trust,  
wielder of Power, impartial and just.
3. Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,  
you I inherit right now and always,  
God of creation, renowned from the start,  
you and you only, the heart of my heart.
4. Light on my pathway where victories are won,  
show me the places you shine as the Sun,  
source of my being, whatever befall,  
King of dominion and Ruler of all!

10 10 10 10 alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,  
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
3. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
4. Light of my soul, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

translated from the Irish by Byrne-Hull 1927

# How firm a foundation ELW 796

1. How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in the Word you adored!  
What more can we say than to you has been said  
who stayed in the shadow when others had fled?

2. Fear not, when the waters my folk have dismayed,  
for here is your God whose desires will not fade.  
I help and encourage the feeble to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3. When fire overwhelms where your pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flames shall not hurt, for I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

4. Through eras of history my people have proved  
their sovereign, eternal, can never be moved.  
When gray on the temples their heads shall adorn,  
like lambs shall they still in my bosom be borne.

11 11 11 11 alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said  
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

2. "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

3. "When through fi'ry trials your pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."

4. "Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove  
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,  
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."

J. Rippon 1787

*Spirit of God, descend upon my heart*  
*ELW 800*

1. Spirit of God, descending like a fire,  
glow in my heart, through all its pulses move,  
stoop to my weakness, kindle the desire  
goodness is reigning on the throne to prove.
2. I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,  
no sudden wish to rend the veil of clay,  
no rushing wind that's blowing where it please,  
only your presence in my soul today.
3. Have you not bid me love you, God and King,  
with all my strength and heart and soul and mind?  
It's to the cross that I would ever cling,  
there your release and consolation find.
4. Teach me to love as angels do above,  
one holy passion filling all my frame,  
down from the heavens winging like a dove,  
gracing the altar where I pray, the flame.

10 10 10 10 alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;  
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;  
stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,  
and make me love you as I ought to love.
2. I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,  
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,  
no angel visitant, no op'ning skies;  
but take the dimness of my soul away.
3. Have you not bid me love you, God and King;  
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?  
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.  
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
4. Teach me to love you as your angels love,  
one holy passion filling all my frame:  
the baptism of the heav'n-descended dove,  
my heart an altar, and your love the flame.

George Croly 1820

When I survey the wondrous cross  
ELW 803

1-20

1. When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
pouring contempt on all my pride.
2. Master, forbid that I should boast  
save in the pure baptismal tide,  
drowning the things that charmed me most,  
giving my soul a place to hide.
3. See, from your head, your hands, your feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down,  
things that could make our joy complete  
when we recalled so rich a crown.
4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
asks for my soul, my life, my all.

LM alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss  
and pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
save in the death of Christ, my God;  
all the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.
3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?
4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts 1707



Come down, O love divine  
ELW 804

1. Come down, O Love divine,  
enter the bread and wine  
that feeds my soul with ardor brightly glowing.  
O Comforter, draw near,  
deep in my heart appear  
and kindle it with passion you're bestowing.
2. There let it freely burn,  
till my enjoyments turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming.  
Shine with a glorious light,  
so to increase my sight,  
upon the narrow path of life illuming.
3. Let holy charity  
my outer garment be,  
and lowliness become my inner clothing.  
Blest are the pure in heart  
taking the humbler part  
that weeps for their deficiencies with loathing.
4. Let this desire surpass  
all of the sounding brass  
that represents our human understanding.  
No one can value Grace  
till it become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a landing.

6611 6611 alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. Come down, O Love divine;  
seek thou this soul of mine  
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near;  
within my heart appear  
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.
2. Oh, let it freely burn,  
till worldly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
and let thy glorious light  
shine ever on my sight,  
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
3. Let holy charity  
mine outward vesture be,  
and lowliness become mine inner clothing -  
true lowliness of heart,  
which takes the humbler part,  
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.
4. And so the yearning strong,  
with which the soul will long,  
shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;  
no soul can guess Love's grace  
till it become the place  
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Bianco da Siena 1430  
translated by Richard F. Littledale 1880

Come, thou fount of every blessing  
ELW 807

1-20

1. Come, O Fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing your grace,  
streams of mercy gently pressing  
me to seek your shining face,  
while the hope of endless glory  
bids me onward so to move  
through the everlasting story  
of a goodness that I'd prove.
2. Here I raise my Ebenezer:  
"Hither by thy help I've come",  
to assist and be a pleaser  
when you heal the deaf and dumb.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
as an outcast of the fold,  
and, to rescue me from danger,  
let his ransom take ahold.
3. To your grace how great a debtor  
so to be am I constrained.  
Let it bind me like a fetter,  
my assurances maintained.  
Lest I wander while I'm sleeping,  
prone to leave the God I love,  
here's my heart that you'd be keeping  
for your joyful courts above.

8787D alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory  
fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore thee;  
may I still thy goodness prove.
2. Here I raise my Ebenezer:  
"Hither by thy help I've come";  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wand'ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.
3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be;  
let that grace now like a fetter  
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;  
prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

Robert Robinson 1758

# Faith of our fathers ELW 813

9-19

1. Faith to receive the holy gift  
living in spite of fire and sword,  
giving our hearts a joyful lift  
promised as we obey our Lord,  
faith in the Spirit's living breath  
keeping us firm and true till death.
2. Faith to endure our servant role  
looking for clues that Christ revealed,  
spreading communion pole to pole,  
freedom and love, as hurts are healed,  
faith in the Spirit's living breath  
keeping us firm and true till death.
3. Faith for the prize as feet embark  
running the race to win the fight,  
making, though chained in prisons dark,  
Christ on the cross a blinding light,  
faith in the Spirit's living breath  
keeping us firm and true till death.
4. Faith in a God who calms our strife,  
strivers from whom we take our cue,  
sharing the very crown of life,  
making the whole creation new,  
faith in the Spirit's living breath  
keeping us firm and true till death.

888888 altered by Chris Nelson 2019

Alfred's alteration of Faber's original  
seeks to increase inclusiveness  
and theological acumen.

My further alteration seeks to increase  
scriptural image.

1. Faith of our fathers, living still  
in spite of dungeon, fire and sword.  
Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy  
whene'er we hear that glorious word.  
Faith of our fathers, holy faith,  
we will be true to you till death.
2. Faith of our mothers, daring faith,  
your work for Christ is love revealed,  
spreading God's word from pole to pole,  
making love known and freedom real.  
Faith of our mothers, holy faith,  
we will be true to you till death.
3. Faith of our sisters, brothers too,  
who still must bear oppression's might,  
raising on high, in prisons dark,  
the cross of Christ still burning bright.  
Faith for today, O living faith,  
we will be true to you till death.
4. Faith born of God, oh, call us yet,  
bind us with all who follow you,  
sharing the struggle of your cross  
until the world is made anew.  
Faith born of God, O living faith,  
we will be true to you till death.

888888 Joseph R. Alfred 2006

Come, my way, my truth, my life  
ELW 816

1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:  
such a way as gives us breath;  
such a truth as toils with strife;  
such a life as gains through death.
2. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:  
such a light as shows how blessed;  
such a feast as mends in length;  
such a strength as makes the guest.
3. Come, my Faith, my Love, my Hope:  
such a faith as doubt can move;  
such a love as joy may grope;  
such a hope as good will prove.

7777 alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. Come, my way, my truth, my life:  
such a way as gives us breath;  
such a truth as ends all strife;  
such a life as killeth death.
2. Come, my light, my feast, my strength:  
such a light as shows a feast;  
such a feast as mends in length;  
such a strength as makes his guest.
3. Come, my joy, my love, my heart:  
such a joy as none can move;  
such a love as none can part;  
such a heart as joys in love.

George Herbert 1630

You have come down to the lakeshore  
ELW 817

1. You have arrived at the lakeshore  
seeking neither the wise or the wealthy,  
but asking only for me to follow.

Refrain:

Sweet Lord, with a glance you enfold me,  
kindly smiling and calling my name . . .  
On the sandbank I've abandoned my vessel,  
other seas by your pleasure I sail.

2. You, knowing well my belongings,  
neither treasure or weapons for conquest,  
but just these fish nets, have made me willing.
3. These are the hands that I offer  
bringing love and some rest to the weary,  
a love that's able to go on loving.
4. Far over other horizons,  
you, the longing of souls that are yearning,  
O Friend and Master, would lead me further.

8 10 10 and refrain Chris Nelson 2018

1. You have come down to the lakeshore  
seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy,  
but only asking for me to follow.

Refrain:

Sweet Lord, you have looked into my eyes;  
kindly smiling, you've called out my name . . .  
On the sand I have abandoned my small boat;  
now with you, I will seek other seas.

2. You know full well what I have, Lord:  
neither treasure nor weapons for conquest,  
just these my fish nets and will for working.
3. You need my hands, my exhaustion,  
working love for the rest of the weary -  
a love that's willing to go on loving.
4. You who have fished other waters;  
you, the longing of souls that are yearning:  
O loving Friend, you have come to call me.

translated from the Spanish by  
Madeleine Forell Marshall 1979

O Master, let me walk with you  
ELW 818

1. Master, O let me walk beside  
you on the path devoid of pride,  
servants who bear the secret way  
your kingdom comes to those who pray,
2. showing the slow of heart to move  
onward by signs your Word can prove,  
lighting the feet of those who stray  
with lamps that guide them home today,
3. sharing the Scriptures, so to give  
pointers on how the prophets live,  
working to bolster faith in God,,  
to trust the one in whom we're awed,
4. sending a shining ray in strife,  
down on the narrow road to life,  
granting your peace to those who heed  
your call to go the way you lead.

LM alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. O Master, let me walk with you  
in lowly paths of service true;  
tell me your secret; help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.
2. 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.
3. Teach me your patience; share with me  
a closer, dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong.
4. In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broad'ning way,  
in peace that only you can give;  
with you, O Master, let me live.

Washington Gladden 1879