

Creator Spirit, heavenly dove
ELW 578

1. Creator Spirit, heav'nly dove,
descend upon us from above,
and come with mercy to restore
your creatures as they were before.
2. To you, the Comforter, we cry,
to you, the gift of God Most High,
approaching us with tongues of fire
anointing us with your desire.
3. In you, with graces sevenfold,
a precious heritage we hold,
as with a rushing wind you claim
the ones who fear your holy name.
4. Your light to every sense impart,
your love to every humble heart,
your energy unfailing be
the strength of our infirmity.
5. Keep far from us our cruel foe,
the peace from your supply bestow,
with you as our protecting guide
no evil can be gratified.
6. Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and you, of both, to be but one,
that through the ages all along
your praise may be our endless song.

LM alt. Chris Nelson 2018

1. Creator Spirit, heav'nly dove,
descend upon us from above;
with graces manifold restore
your creatures as they were before.
2. To you, the Comforter, we cry;
to you, the gift of God most high,
true fount of life, the fire of love,
the soul's anointing from above.
3. In you, with graces sevenfold,
we God's almighty hand behold;
while you with tongues of fire proclaim
to all the world God's holy name.
4. Your light to ev'ry sense impart,
and shed your love in ev'ry heart;
your own unfailing might supply
to strengthen our infirmity.
5. Keep far from us our cruel foe,
and peace from your own hand bestow;
upheld by you, our strength and guide,
no evil can our steps betide.
6. Teach us to know the Father, Son
and you, of both, to be but one;
that through the ages all along
your praise may be our endless song.

Rhabanus Maurus 850, tr. composite

How clear is our vocation, Lord
ELW 580

1. How clear is our vocation when
we once obey your call
and learn that you will come again
protecting like a mother hen
your children that they all
may never chance to fall.

2. But if, forgetful, we should find
your yoke is hard to bear;
if pain and pressure fray the mind,
and love itself cannot unwind
its tangled skein of care,
then make us more aware.

3. We marvel how your saints became
in hindrances more sure;
whose joyful virtues put to shame
the casual way we wear your name,
and by our faults obscure
your energy to cure.

4. In labor at the crack of dawn
to venture or to build
together or when all have gone
may we not cease to look upon
the cross where you fulfilled
the work your Father willed.

86 88 66 Chris Nelson 2018

1. How clear is our vocation, Lord,
when once we heed your call
to live according to your word
and daily learn, refreshed, restored,
that you are Lord of all
and will not let us fall.

2. But if, forgetful, we should find
your yoke is hard to bear;
if worldly pressures fray the mind
and love itself cannot unwind
its tangled skein of care:
our inward life repair.

3. We marvel how your saints become
in hindrances more sure;
whose joyful virtues put to shame
the casual way we wear your name,
and by our faults obscure
your pow'r to cleanse and cure.

4. In what you give us, Lord, to do,
together or alone,
in old routines or ventures new,
may we not cease to look to you,
the cross you hung upon,
all you endeavored done.

86 88 66 Fred Pratt Green 1982

I will come to you in the silence
ELW 581

1. I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you up from your fear.
You will hear the voice
that claims you as my choice,
be still and know I'm here.
- Refrain: Do not be afraid, I am with you,
calling you a branch of the Vine.
When you grow in me
the truth will make you free.
I love you, you are mine.
2. I would be a hope for the hopeless,
eyes for all who long to perceive.
Shadows of the night
won't keep you from my light
that shines on all who grieve.
3. I would be the strength in your weakness,
healing for the sick and the lost.
When they see the sun
the lame begin to run,
in storms no longer tossed.
4. I would be the source of your freedom,
peace of mind the world cannot give.
When I call your name
you'll leave your bed of shame,
stand up and walk and live.

98566 alt. Chris Nelson 2018

1. "I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice,
I claim you as my choice.
Be still and know I am here.
- Refrain: Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine."
2. "I am hope for all who are hopeless,
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night,
I will be your light.
Come and rest in me.
3. "I am strength for all the despairing,
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see,
the lame will all run free,
and all will know my name.
4. "I am the Word that leads all to freedom,
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name,
embracing all your pain.
Stand up, now walk and live!

Irregular David Haas 1991

There's a wideness in God's mercy
ELW 587

1-20

1. God receives the heart's contrition,
every eye that longs to see,
with a generous disposition
full of mercy meant to be.
There's no place where earthly sorrows
are more felt than up above
where the sum of our tomorrows
meets the endlessness of love.
2. There is welcome for the sinner
and the promises of grace
that are gained for the beginner
in the healer's strong embrace.
There is quite enough for nations
in designs as great as this
that proceed to fresh creations
not so apt to go amiss.
3. Love is patient like a kernel
that the sower keeps in mind
while the heart of the Eternal
waters seeds of every kind.
But we make this bounty narrow
by confining as we please
that extension of the arrow
our control would try to freeze.
4. It's our all we owe to Jesus,
our pretensions large and small,
since there's something here that frees us
from the sentence of the Fall.
Are we vibrant in our living
when we hear you say the Word
in Communion with Thanksgiving
for the goodness you've conferred?

8787D alt. Chris Nelson 2019

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment giv'n.
2. There is welcome for the sinner,
and a promised grace made good;
there is mercy with the Savior;
there is healing in his blood.
There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.
3. For the love of God is broader
than the measures of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make this love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify its strictness
with a zeal God will not own.
4. 'Tis not all we owe to Jesus;
it is something more than all:
greater good because of evil,
larger mercy through the fall.
Make our love, O God, more faithful;
let us take you at your word,
and our lives will be thanksgiving
for the goodness of the Lord.

Frederick W. Faber 1862

1. The presence of the Lord is here,
our spirits ever wooing.
These works of ours will disappear
when God's in charge of doing.
To Jesus Christ alone we look
to have our names within the book
of life that we're pursuing.

*Salvation
unto us
has come
ELW 590*

2. The claim you laid upon your own
we ended up betraying.
The sin that you could not condone
we answered for by straying.
But since these words must be fulfilled,
the Word came down as mercy willed,
for us the law obeying.

3. Since you've contended for our sake
and saved us for your glory,
we will rejoice and gladly take
an interest in our story.
The cross for which I humbly ask
expresses your creative task
for which I'm never sorry.

4. I put my trust in you alone,
a pledge that's never ceasing,
that by its fruits may I be known,
with love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify
the services that should supply
a proof for what we're leasing.

5. O God, for every deed you've done
we volunteer a blessing
for favors that your grace has won,
for all that we're possessing.
Our Father, as you reign on high,
your holy name we sanctify,
our trespasses confessing.

*8787.887
a.lf. Chris Nelson
2019*

6. Your kingdom come, as on the earth
your will is done in heaven.
Give us this day a daily birth
from evils of the leaven.
As we forgive what others do,
in every trial see us through
with gifts of yours, the seven.

1. Salvation unto us has come
by God's free grace and favor;
good works cannot avert our doom,
they help and save us never.
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,
who did for all the world atone,
our only mediator.

2. What God did in the law demand
no one could keep unfulfilling;
great woe arose on ev'ry hand,
and sin grew all-prevailing.
Because the law must be fulfilled,
Christ came as God in mercy willed,
for us the law obeying.

3. Since Christ has full atonement made
and brought to us salvation,
we will rejoice, we will be glad
and build on this foundation.
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead;
baptized into your death, I'm freed;
your life is mine forever.

4. Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone
and rests in him unceasing;
and by its fruits true faith is known,
with love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify;
works serve our neighbor and supply
the proof that faith is living.

5. All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
to Father, Son, and Spirit!
Lord, you have saved us by your grace;
all glory to your merit!
O triune God in heav'n above,
you have revealed your saving love;
your blessed name we hallow.

*Paul Speratus
1524
fr. 1941*

6. Your kingdom come, your will be done
in this world as in heaven;
give bread for each new day begun;
our sins be all forgiven,
as we forgive what others do;
in ev'ry trial see us through;
from evil save us. Amen.

Drawn to the light
ELW 593

1. People who fought
in darkness have sought
a glimmer that ought
to commence the day.
Just when we thought
sin was our lot
we were brought
to the arms to God.

2. How can we tell
a heaven from hell
if sinners would dwell
in the shades of gray?
Dawn will propel
sleepers as well
at the bell
to the arms of God.

3. Where is the sun?
But there will be none!
The Lamb is the one
who will show the way.
Now is it done,
life has begun
as we run
to the arms of God.

Refrain: Focus your sight!
Gone is the night,
bask in the light
of the morning.
Shining and bright,
all by its might
will be right
when we're drawn to God.

4555 4435 alt. Chris Nelson 2018

1. People who walk
in darkness have sought
a light in the heart
of the darkest night.
Just when we thought
all would be lost,
we were drawn to the light of God.

2. How can we tell
a heaven from hell
if ev'ryone dwells
in the dark of night?
Morning dispels,
gently compels,
and we're drawn to the light of God.

3. Where is the sun?
Oh, there will be none!
The Lamb is the one
who is shining bright,
bids us to come!
Life has begun
when we're drawn to the light of God.

Refrain: Dawn is in sight!
Gone is the night,
drawn to the light
and the morning.
Glorious and bright,
oh, what a sight
to be drawn to the light of God.

9 10 8 8 John C. Ylvisaker 1990

Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice
ELW 594

1. Rejoice you Christians one and all,
with steps so lightly springing,
convening in the worship hall
to elevate your singing
of praise to God for constant love
that leads in triumph up above
the sin so closely clinging.

2. In prison and in chains I lay,
my disappointment bearing,
no consolation night or day,
no signal that you're caring.
The good I did had come to naught
when I could see my only lot
was destitution, staring.

3. You saw the plight of human stress
before the world's foundation
and with your mercy measureless
had planned for my salvation.
You turned to me a father's heart
of gracious wisdom, to impart
a wholly new creation.

4. You said to your beloved Son,
"It's time to start descending
into the world and get this done,
the reign of Satan ending,
to set your course upon the seas
evil-minded tyrannies
for life that we're intending."

1. Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice,
with exultation springing,
and, with united heart and voice
and holy rapture singing,
proclaim the wonders God has done,
proclaim the vict'ry God has won,
how precious was our ransom!

2. Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay,
death brooded fiercely o'er me,
sin was my torment night and day;
in sin my mother bore me.
My own good works all came to naught,
free will against God's judgment fought,
so firmly sin possessed me.

3. O God, you saw my deep distress
before the world's foundation,
and, with your mercy measureless,
you planned for my salvation.
You turned to me a father's heart;
you did not choose the easy part,
but gave your dearest treasure.

4. You said to your beloved Son;
"Tis time to have compassion.
Then go, bright jewel of my crown,
and bring to all salvation;
from sin and sorrow set them free;
slay bitter death for them that they
may live with you forever."

5. The Son the Father's will obeyed
 and Mary was the mother,
 an incarnation that remade
 the human role of brother,
 a royalty that came disguised
 as any shepherd, realized
 in serving one another.

6. This Servant could restore my soul.
 "Stay close for your protection.
 I'll be a ransom I control
 by striving for perfection,
 and when I suffer on the tree,
 the death of death will set you free
 to live the resurrection.

7. "Unto my Father now I go,
 in heaven duly seated,
 my hand of blessing to bestow,
 my work on earth completed,
 the Holy Spirit who'll renew
 your faith and who'll improve the view
 of wickedness I cheated.

8. "Disciples that I chose on earth
 to foster and endeavor
 to bring the reign of God to birth
 not one from me shall sever.
 The spread of truth will not impede
 my wish to make you free indeed
 and be with me forever."

87 87 887 Chris Nelson 2019

5. The Son obeyed your gracious will,
 was born of virgin mother;
 and, your good pleasure to fulfill,
 he came to be my brother.
 His royal pow'r disguised he bore,
 a servant's form, like mine, he wore,
 to lead the devil captive.

6. To me he said: "Stay close to me
 I am your rock and castle.
 Your ransom I myself will be;
 for you I strive and wrestle.
 The foe will shed my precious blood;
 all this I suffer for you good;
 my life o'er death will triumph.

7. "Now to my Father I depart,
 from earth to heav'n ascending,
 and, gracious wisdom to impart,
 the Holy Spirit sending,
 who will in trouble comfort you,
 will teach you well, your faith renew,
 and in all truth will guide you.

8. "What I on earth have done and taught
 guide all your life and teaching;
 so shall the glorious reign of God
 increase, the whole world reaching.
 Let none the gospel gift impede;
 I make you free; be free indeed!
 This final word I leave you."

Martin Luther 1524
 translated Richard Massie 1860

Out of the depths I cry to you
ELW 600

1-20

1. Deep down I cry to you, O Lord,
I pray you be attentive.
Let supplications strike a chord
of sympathy inventive.
Do not regard my sinful deeds,
but send the grace my spirit needs
to give me more incentive.
2. For me you chose the way of pain,
a crown of thorns forbearing.
Good works of ours are done in vain
unless it's you we're sharing,
and even faith is not our own
but mercy from your royal throne,
the sign that you are caring.
3. In you alone, O God, I hope,
for you my soul is waiting.
With your forgiveness, we can cope
with evils escalating.
Your promise keeps us ever strong
like those who watch for you and long
for mornings you're creating.
4. Trust in the Lord, O Israel,
whose love to you is streaming,
out like a fountain in a well,
from visions we are dreaming
of exit from captivity,
of truth that makes us truly free,
of power that's redeeming.

87 87 887 Chris Nelson 2019

1. Out of the depths I cry to you;
O Lord God, hear me calling.
Incline your ear to my distress
in spite of my rebelling.
Do not regard my sinful deeds.
Send me the grace my spirit needs;
without it I am nothing.
2. All things you send are full of grace;
you crown our lives with favor.
All our good works are done in vain
without our Lord and Savior.
We praise you for the gift of faith;
you save us from the grip of death;
our lives are in you keeping.
3. In you alone, O God, we hope,
and not in our own merit.
We rest our fears in your good Word
and trust your Holy Spirit.
Your promise keeps us strong and sure;
we trust the cross, your signature,
inscribed upon our temples.
4. My soul is waiting for you, Lord,
as one who longs for morning;
no watcher waits with greater hope
than I for you returning.
I hope as Isr'el in the Lord,
who sends redemption through the Word.
Praise God for grace and mercy!

Martin Luther 1524, tr. composite

In all our grief
ELW 615

1. In times of grief we turn again to you,
O God, who'd know how things we think or do
reveal the pain we put each other through.

Refrain: Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy.

2. Bestow your help to quell the angry word,
the wish and will for doing what's absurd,
and follow you where love is best conferred.

3. You did not spare your one and only Son,
who walked our walk and ran where we had run,
redeeming lives from evils they had done.

4. And when we suffer all that we can bear,
then let us know that you will always care
for those who rise to 'meet you in the air'.

10 10 10 alt. Chris Nelson 2018

1. In all our grief and fear we turn to you.
O God, you know all that we think or do,
you know the pain we put each other through.

Refrain: Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, grant us peace.

2. Help us to put aside the angry word,
the clenching fist, the wish and will to hurt.
Teach us the way in which love best is served.

3. You did not even spare your only Son.
He lived our griefs and bore all evil done,
but through his cross, redemption has been won.

4. God, when we suffer all that we can bear,
then let us know that you in truth are near
and will not leave us lost in all our fear.

Sylvia G. Dunstan 1991