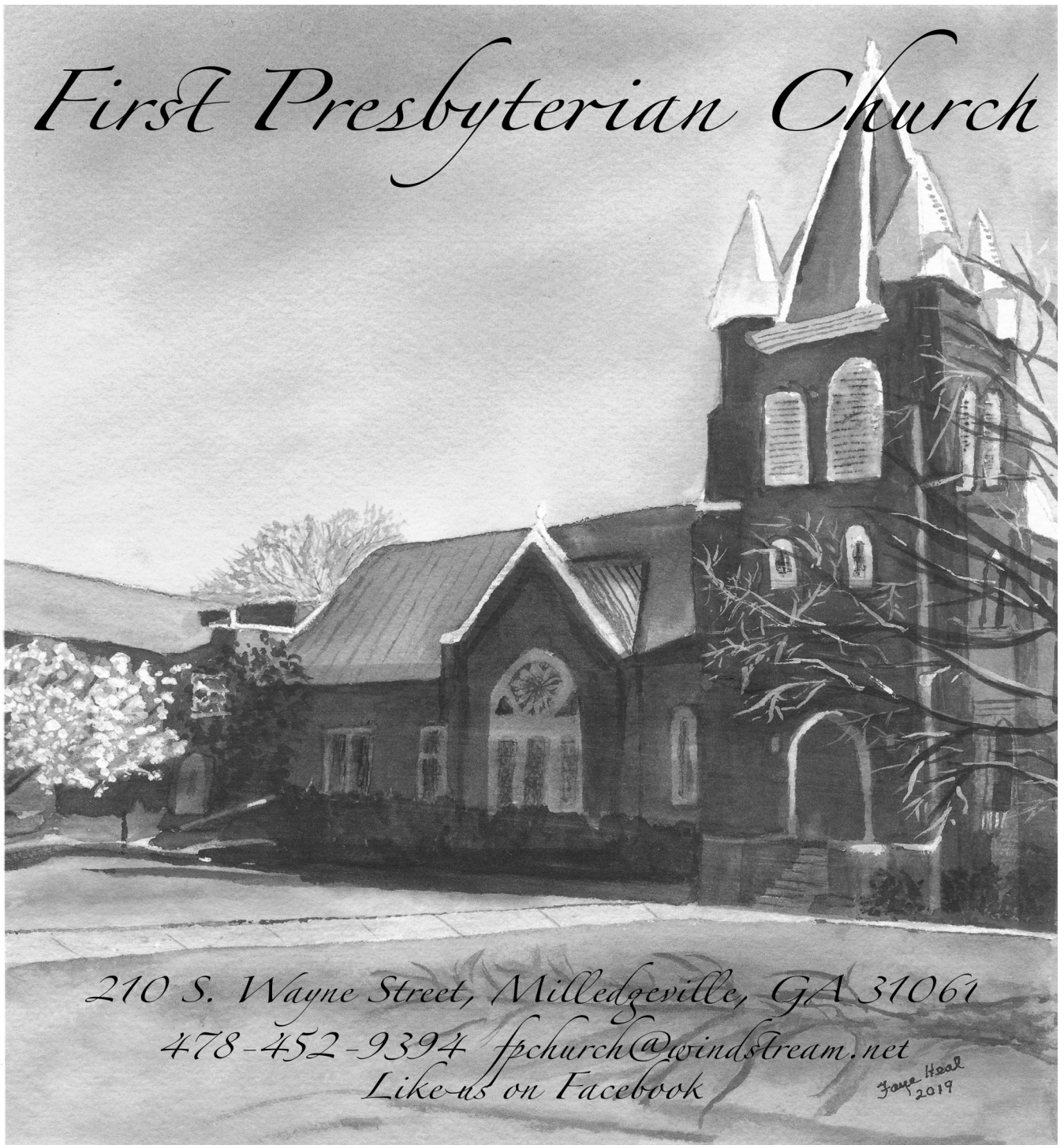


First Presbyterian Church



210 S. Wayne Street, Milledgeville, GA 31061
478-452-9394 fpchurch@windstream.net
Like us on Facebook

*Jaye Heald
2019*

**Followers of Christ, called to serve our community
and be an actively-engaging light to the world.**

We live into our faith, inspired by our worship, encouraged by our fellowship, empowered by our studies. As a Matthew 25 Congregation, we answer the call to provide food and shelter to those in need. As a More Light Presbyterians Congregation, we provide a safe and affirming worshiping community for LGBTQIA+ persons, celebrating the uniqueness and dignity of each person as they seek a home for their faith and confidence in the promises of God for them.

September 29, 2024
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

Arioso

J. S. Bach, arr. Colin Hand

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are delighted that you have joined us this Lord's Day. If you'd like to learn more about our mission and ministry, we invite you to speak to Rev. Susan. Restrooms & changing table are at the end of the hall to the left. Thank you for being with us!

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

CHORAL INTROIT

What a friend we have in Jesus

(GTG #465, vs. 1)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Congregation: In speaking, in silence, in movement, in stillness, God is with us.

Leader: God alone saves us. God alone helps us. God alone sets us on the path of peace.

Congregation: Let us worship our Helper!

CHILDREN'S TIME

Anne Smart

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We thank you, God, for the excitement of the morning when the dawn of a new day breaks and everything is fresh and new. Help us to receive the gift with gratitude and use it wisely and well; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

CALL TO CONFESSION

We long to gloss over the messy parts of our stories: the deceit, the anger and the heavy grudges. But nothing is hidden from God. We come before God and one another with complete honesty, naming our sins that we might reclaim our name as God's beloved children.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mark H. Landfried

God, it is with shame in our hearts that we confess how often we are so wrapped up in ourselves and our own needs that we completely ignore the needs of others and are not even aware of the pain they bear. Forgive our thoughtless ways. Show us how to understand those near to us, to reach out to them and stand with them in their need; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whom we are called to be a compassionate people. Amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CHORAL RESPONSE

Have we trials and temptations?

(GTG #465, vs. 2)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news: our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth. We are a people set free from the harmful patterns of the past for a future God builds in our midst even now. We are whole people who are called to make this world whole, with God's help.

GLORIA PATRI

HYMN NO. 581

**Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end!
Amen, amen**

PEACE

***Please stand as you are able.**

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
and his righteousness;
and all these things shall be added unto you.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

If we are uncertain and weary, speak to us, O God. If we are grounded and hopeful, speak to us. If our faith feels solid and steady, speak to us, and if our faith feels shaky and tentative, speak to us. Keep speaking through your holy Word, O God, that we may find our voice in yours. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

		Pew Bible Page #
OLD TESTAMENT	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10: 9:20-22	OT P 448
PSALM	Psalm 124	OT P 572
NEW TESTAMENT	James 5:13-20	NT P 231
GOSPEL	Mark 9:38-50	NT P 45

SERMON

Reverend Susan Balfour

*HYMN 804

Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart!

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Lois Callender

INVITATION TO OFFERING



We make our offering before God, not as payment for a grace we could never afford, but as an act of commitment and gratitude for the God who builds a new world in our midst, even now. We do not give out of guilt or pride. We give out of joy, trusting that God will use these gifts for the good of all people. You may present your offering at the front of the sanctuary, or if you prefer to contribute electronically, you can do so using the PayPal QR Code in your bulletin or visit our website at fpcmilledgeville.org.



Scan. Pay. Go.

OFFERTORY

Come, Ye Disconsolate

Samuel Webbe, setting by Emma Lou Diemer

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;***Praise God, all creatures here below;******Alleluia! Alleluia!******Praise God, the source of all our gifts!******Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!******Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!******Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!***

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Accept all that is offered in this place this day, O God. Accept our material commitments to build a more peaceable family on this earth and in our own communities. Accept our personal commitments to become a people who break cycles of hatred and retaliation, in both large-scale and everyday ways. Use these gifts, and use us messy people, for the rebuilding of a world of hope and healing in your name, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 432

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Go in Peace. AMEN!

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Are we weak and heavy laden?

(GTG #465, vs. 3)

POSTLUDE

Coro from "Water Music"

G.F.Handel, arr. Noel Rawsthorne



Lord, hear our prayers

LIMITED MOBILITY

Helen Danuser

CHURCH FAMILY:

Wesley Applebury, cancer recurrence and treatment, attending seminary in Atlanta, **Columbia Theological Seminary, D. Wesley Applebury, Box 289, 701 S. Columbia Dr., Decatur, GA 30030**

Jack Bivens, ongoing health concerns- at Autumn Lane in Gray, GA

Nan Carpenter, ongoing health concerns

Ellen Thompson, waiting on double hip replacement

EXTENDED FAMILY:

Nannette Green Allen, childhood friend of Margaret Ivester with serious health issues
Brad Blackham, friend of Jennifer Flory, open heart surgery/valve replacement and recovery

Judy Bledsoe, Mary Lucik's daughter, recovering from car accident

Michael Bledsoe, Mary Lucik's grandson, multiple health concerns

Brittany Caruthers, Sunda Coleman's niece, ongoing health concerns

Bella Covone, Susan Balfour's niece, idiopathic hypertension

Susan Eilers, Mary Lucik's friend, cancer surgery

Don Goggans, Elaine Goggans' son, stage four cancer

Marshall Hodgman, Donna Gautier's son, recovering from heart surgery at home

Alonzo Kelley, Craig Callender's father, Stage 4 Melenoma

Velma Kelley, Craig Callender's grandmother, ongoing health concerns

Elizabeth Knobel, Carolyn Morgan's daughter, ongoing health concerns

Ben Morgan, Jennifer Flory's brother, ongoing concerns

Janie Mullis, Bill Werts' son-in-law's mother, ongoing health concerns

Joanne Murphy, Kathy Carroll's mother, ongoing health issues- at Carlyle House in Macon

Paul Orman, Barbra Orman's husband, ongoing health concerns

Chris Pearson, Sunda Coleman's son, recovering at home; dialysis

Runette Pounds, Sunda Coleman's mother, ongoing health concerns

Gloria Roberts, Bill Werts' cousin, recovering from a traumatic fall

Paul Schrage, Carrie Cook's father, ongoing health concerns

Bob Smart, Anne Smart's husband, ankylosing spondylitis

Windy Spaide, Craig Callender's sister, ongoing health concerns

Special friend of Louise Sallstrom, ongoing health concerns

Randy Stewart, Haywood Edwards son-in-law, ongoing health concerns

Ike Thomas, ongoing cancer treatments

Jeanene Vinson, former secretary at FPC, ongoing health concerns

Dudley Weathers, Anne Weathers' husband, at home in hospice care

Wayne Woodard, Ruby Werts' brother, diagnosed with Parkinson's

IN ASSISTED LIVING

George and Nan Carpenter, PO Box 527, Jefferson, GA 30549

Jude Hirsch, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place

Nancy Holbrook, The Dublin Place, 504 Fire Tower Rd, Dublin GA 31021

Maryanne Morris, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place

Jackie Northington, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place, Ste 118

Suzy Smith, Savannah Court 1061 Willow Run Rd., Unit 4, Greensboro GA 30642

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: September 29- October 6

Today	9:30	Sunday School
	10:15	Children's Sunday School
	11:00	Worship
	12:00	Milly Free Fridge Service Opportunity
	1:00	The Bridge UMC Worship
Monday	7:00	MSG
Tuesday	9:30	Food Pantry
	12:00	Kiwanis
Wednesday	6:30	Pot Luck and Bible Study
Sunday	9:30	Sunday School
	10:15	Children's Sunday School
	11:00	Worship with Communion
	1:00	The Bridge UMC Worship



Offerings in September	\$11,714.38
Anticipated September expenses:	\$21,615.00
(Monthly expenditures may exceed anticipated amounts)	



Join us for worship in-person, online at Facebook Live or on the radio at 102.3 WKZR radio every week.

Sunday: 9:30AM **Zoom Sunday School Class**, we are studying *The Collected Sermons of Walter Brueggemann*
www.Zoom.com, Meeting ID: 852 8172 1781
Passcode: 085809

Fellowship Sunday School Class, studying *Final Words From the Cross* by Adam Hamilton, meeting in the Parlor Room

10:15AM **Children's Sunday School Class**, singing, crafts and stories, meeting in the Craft Room Upstairs

Wednesday: 6:30PM **Wednesday Night Potluck and Bible Study**, studying the video series "Living the Questions 2.0", meeting in the Fellowship Hall

667 When Morning Gilds the Skies

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing
 2 Does sad - ness fill my mind? A so - lace here I
 3 Let earth's wide cir - cle round in joy - ful notes re -
 4 Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di -

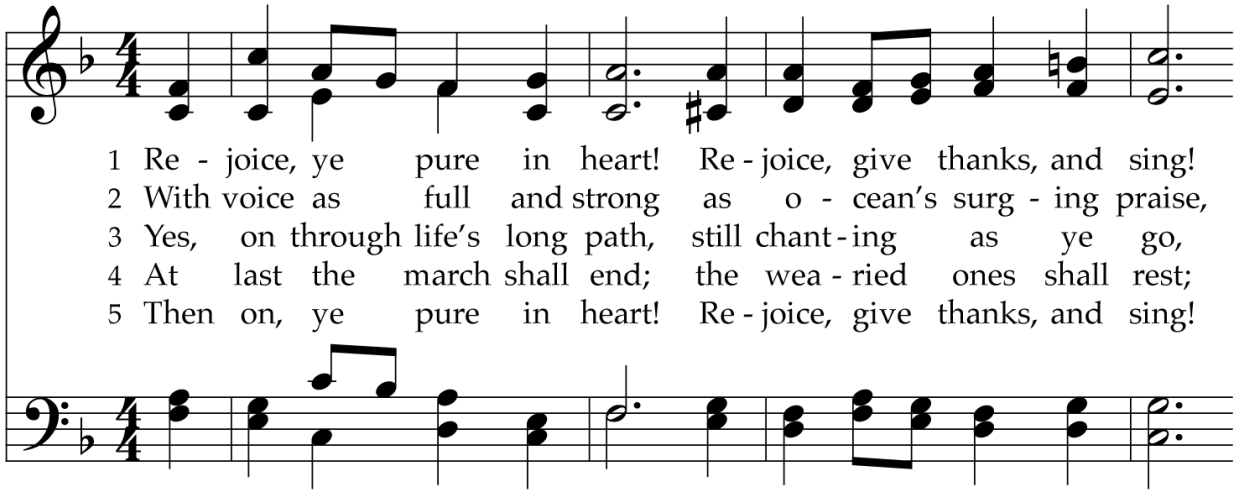
cries: may Je - sus Christ be praised! A -
 find: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Or
 sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let
 vine: may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be

like at work and prayer to Je - sus I re -
 fades my earth - ly bliss? My com - fort still is
 air and sea and sky from depth to height re -
 this the e - ter - nal song through all the a - ges

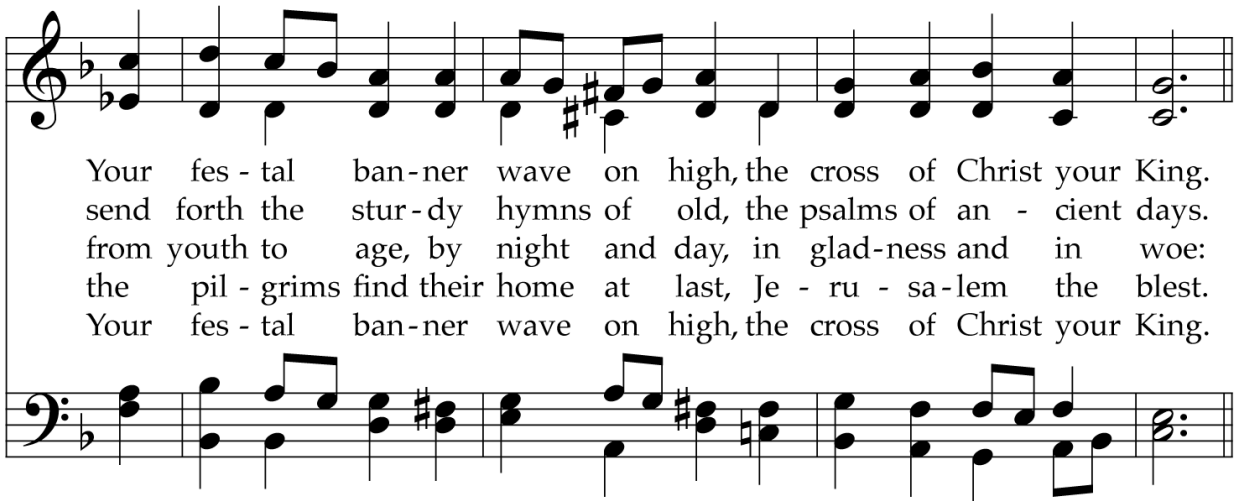
pair: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 this: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 ply: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
 long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

This is not just a morning hymn, though this excerpt from an English translation of an early 19th-century German text may not convey how thoroughly the original deals with different kinds of time throughout the day. The tune was composed as a setting for this English text.

804 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

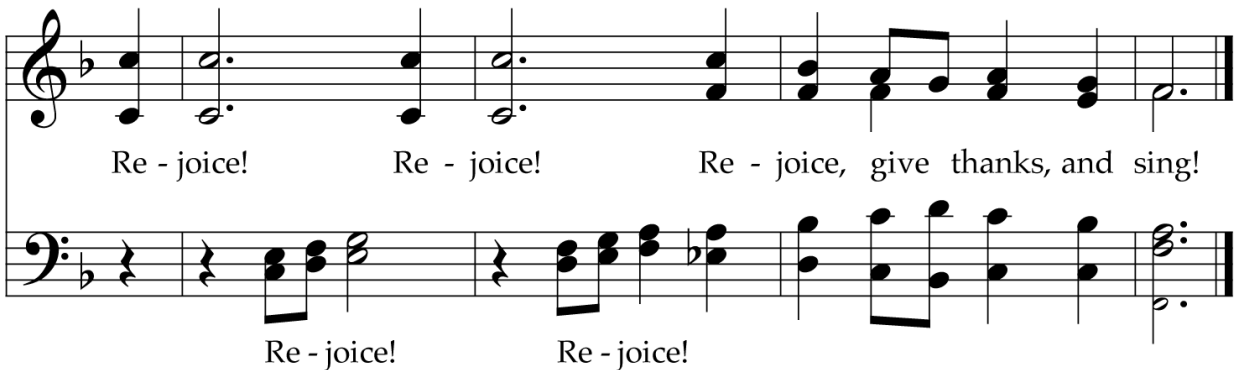


1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
3 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go,
4 At last the march shall end; the wea - ried ones shall rest;
5 Then on, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!



Your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.
send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
from youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe:
the pil - grims find their home at last, Je - ru - sa - lem the blest.
Your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
Re - joice! Re - joice!

These stanzas are drawn from a much longer hymn created for the processional at an English choir festival in 1865. The original text lacked the refrain that gives the hymn so much of its energy and interest. That

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432

Capo 1: (D) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A)(D)
 E^b B^b Cm A^b E^b B^b E^b

1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
 2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
 3 We mar - vel how your saints be - came in hin - dranc - es more sure:
 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,

(G) (Em) (A) (F[#]m) (Bm) (G) (Em)
 A^b Fm B^b Gm Cm A^b Fm

to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re -
 if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un -
 whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your
 in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to

(A7) (D) (A7)(B) (Em) (G)(A7) (D)
 B^b7 E^b B^b7 C Fm A^b B^b7 E^b

stored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
 wind its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.
 name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure.
 you: the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored, done.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This reflection on Christian vocation was written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune, and the poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.