Westminster
Presbyterian Church
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330-263-2398 / wpcwooster@gmail.com

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 27, 2023

Welcome and Announcements — **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Let us open our hearts and minds to the rhythm of the gathering music as it centers us in God's presence for worship.

Prelude **"Theme from 2nd Movement" (from Beethoven's Symphony #5)** *L. Beethoven arr J. Thompson*

***Gathering Words** *(prayer by Howard Thurman)* **Dorothy Iams**

*The * in the liturgy indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

Lord, Lord, open unto me.

Open unto me — **light for my darkness.**
Open unto me — **courage for my fear.**
Open unto me — **hope for my despair.**
Open unto me — **peace for my turmoil.**
Open unto me — **joy for my sorrow.**
Open unto me — **strength for my weakness.**
Open unto me — **wisdom for my confusion.**
Open unto me — **forgiveness for my sins.**
Open unto me — **love for my hates.**
Open unto me — **your Self for my self.**

Lord, Lord, open unto me. Amen.

***Opening Hymn No. 475** **"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"** *Nettleton*

Call to Confession **Dorothy Iams**

When we pray to God, do we do so with pride in what wonderful people we are,
or with that humble hope which recognizes how we have not lived as God's children,
and how we need God's forgiveness and grace in our lives?
Join me as we pray our prayer of confession to our God…

Prayer of Confession **Dorothy Iams**

God of compassion and mercy, look upon us with favor as we confess our sins.
Our faith is weak in the face of crisis. Our hope collapses when we are threatened or maligned.
We seek our own safety and abandon those you love.
We trust in objects and ideas we can create and control.
We speak much and risk little.
But you, O God, have given your promise that you will never forsake us.

Forgive our failure to take you at your word,
and for the times when we forsake you and the ways of Christ.

Silent Confession

Musical Response No. 471 **"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"** ***(sung twice)*** ***Hear My Prayer***

Assurance of Forgiveness **Dorothy Iams**

Family of faith,
Receive the good news of the gospel:
we are new creations, the old has gone, the new has come!
In Jesus Christ we have forgiveness and new life.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Musical Offering **"Minuet"** ***J. S. Bach; arr. A. Foot***

We offer our gifts of money, talents, time, and energy—the gifts of our lives in gratitude for God's relentless love and grace for all. These gifts represent our commitment to heed God's call and join God in God's mission
of healing and transforming our world.

Prayer of Illumination **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Scripture Reading **Luke 18: 9-14 (Common English Bible)** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

9 Jesus told this parable to certain people who had convinced themselves that they were righteous
and who looked on everyone else with disgust: 10 "Two people went up to the temple to pray. One
was a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed about himself with
these words, 'God, I thank you that I'm not like everyone else—crooks, evildoers, adulterers—or even
like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week. I give a tenth of everything I receive.'

13 But the tax collector stood at a distance. He wouldn't even lift his eyes to look toward heaven.
Rather, he struck his chest and said, 'God, show mercy to me, a sinner.'

14 I tell you, this person went down to his home justified rather than the Pharisee. All who lift
themselves up will be brought low, and those who make themselves low will be lifted up."

Sermon **Pray It Forward** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Hymn No. 469 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"** ***(sung multiple times) ***Children Praying***

Sharing of Joys and Concerns **Dorothy Iams**

Prayer of the people **Dorothy Iams**

Through the power of your Spirit and in the name of Jesus the Christ,
who taught us to pray, saying:

Our God in heaven, holy is your name.
Your kin-dom come,
Your will be done, on earth as is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.
For the kin-dom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn No. 722 "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak" *Canonbury*

Benediction Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy

Postlude "Peace Like a River /Amen!" *Trad.; arr. D. Wagner*
Westminster Choir

The service continues with fellowship.

*The Prayer of Confession was adapted from Rev. Gail Monsma.
*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.
*Music: Tom Shaw, organ; Bob Iams, piano

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To continue to assure the safety of all, the offering plate is located on a table in the back of the sanctuary. If you are moved to support our ministry, we invite you to place your gifts in the plate.



You may also give online through our website by clicking on the "GIVE NOW" button at the bottom of the home page. Your generosity helps us to fulfill our calling to engage in God's transformative mission in our community.

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 27

- Outdoor Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Monday, August 28

- Troop 61 – 6 pm – Mackey Hall

Wednesday, August 30

- CAMO – 9:30 am – Orrville
- KILLBUCK DISTRICT Eagle Board of Review – 5 pm – The Meeting Place

Thursday, August 31

- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, Sept. 3

- Worship Service with Communion – 10 am – Mackey Hall
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Westminster Presbyterian Church
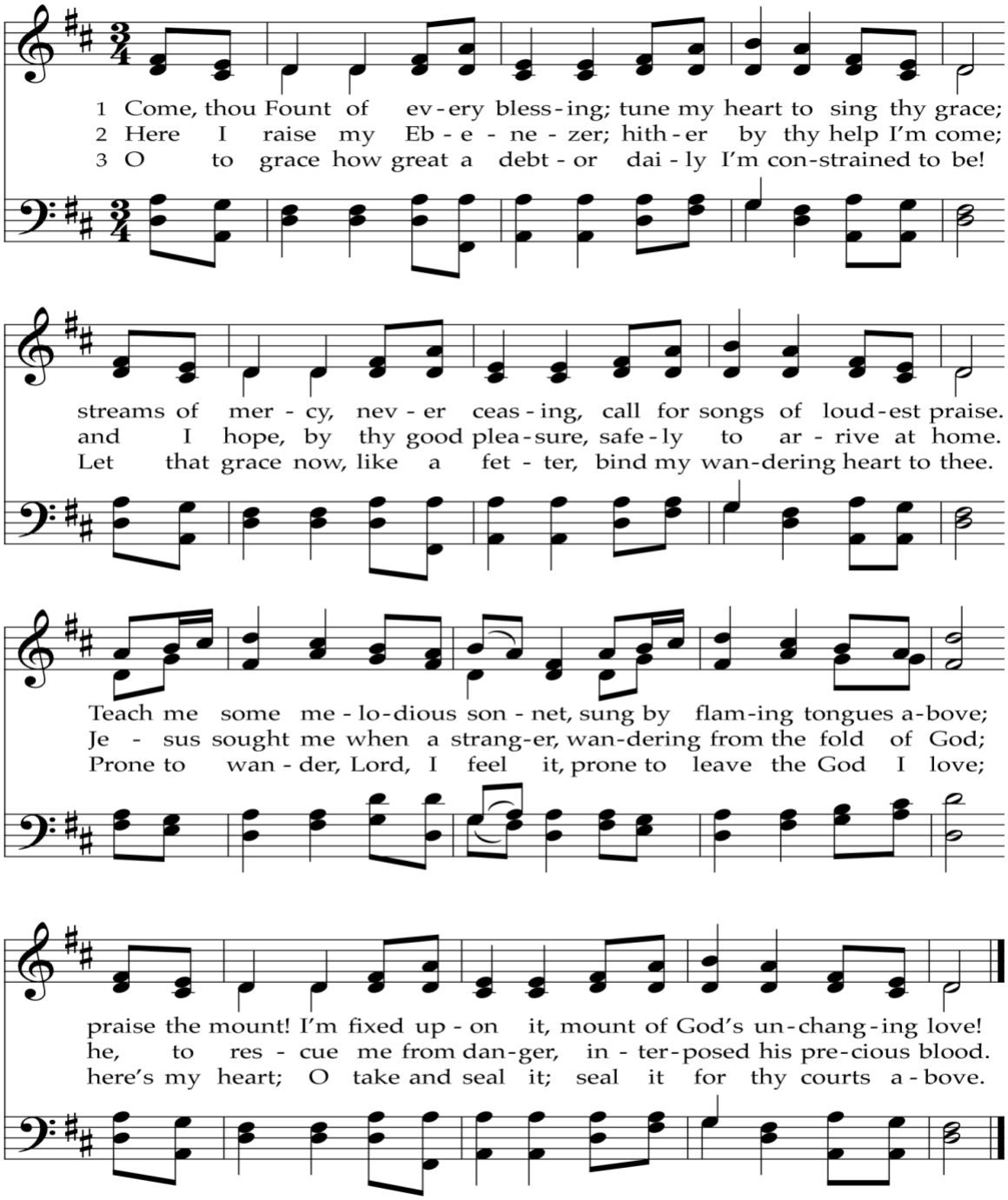
Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. James Henery
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola
Custodian Kara Akers

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2.p.m.

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Westminster Presbyterian Church strives to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of ethnicity, creed, age, cultural background, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475
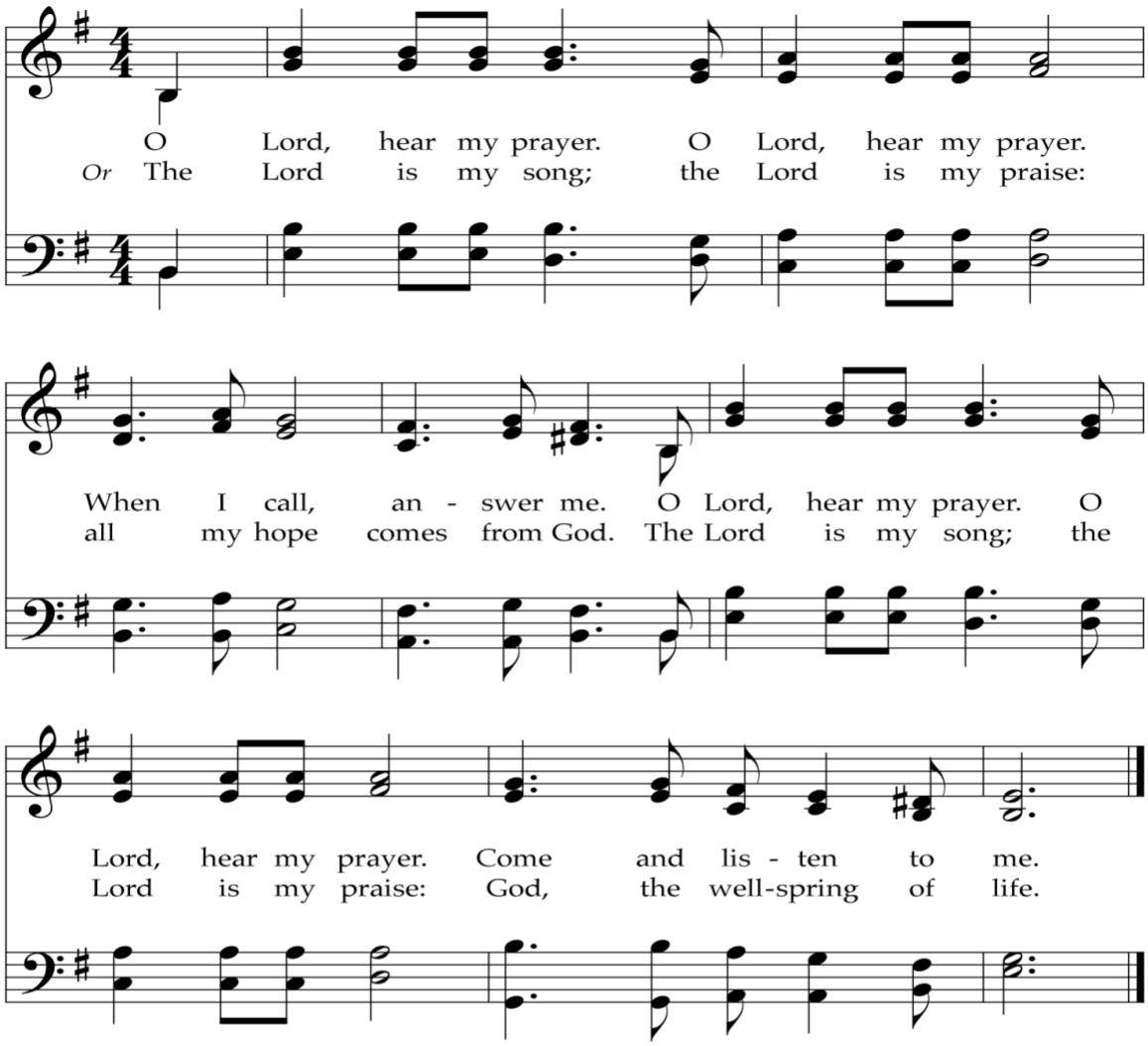


Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

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

NETTLETON
8.7.8.7.D

O Lord, Hear My Prayer 471
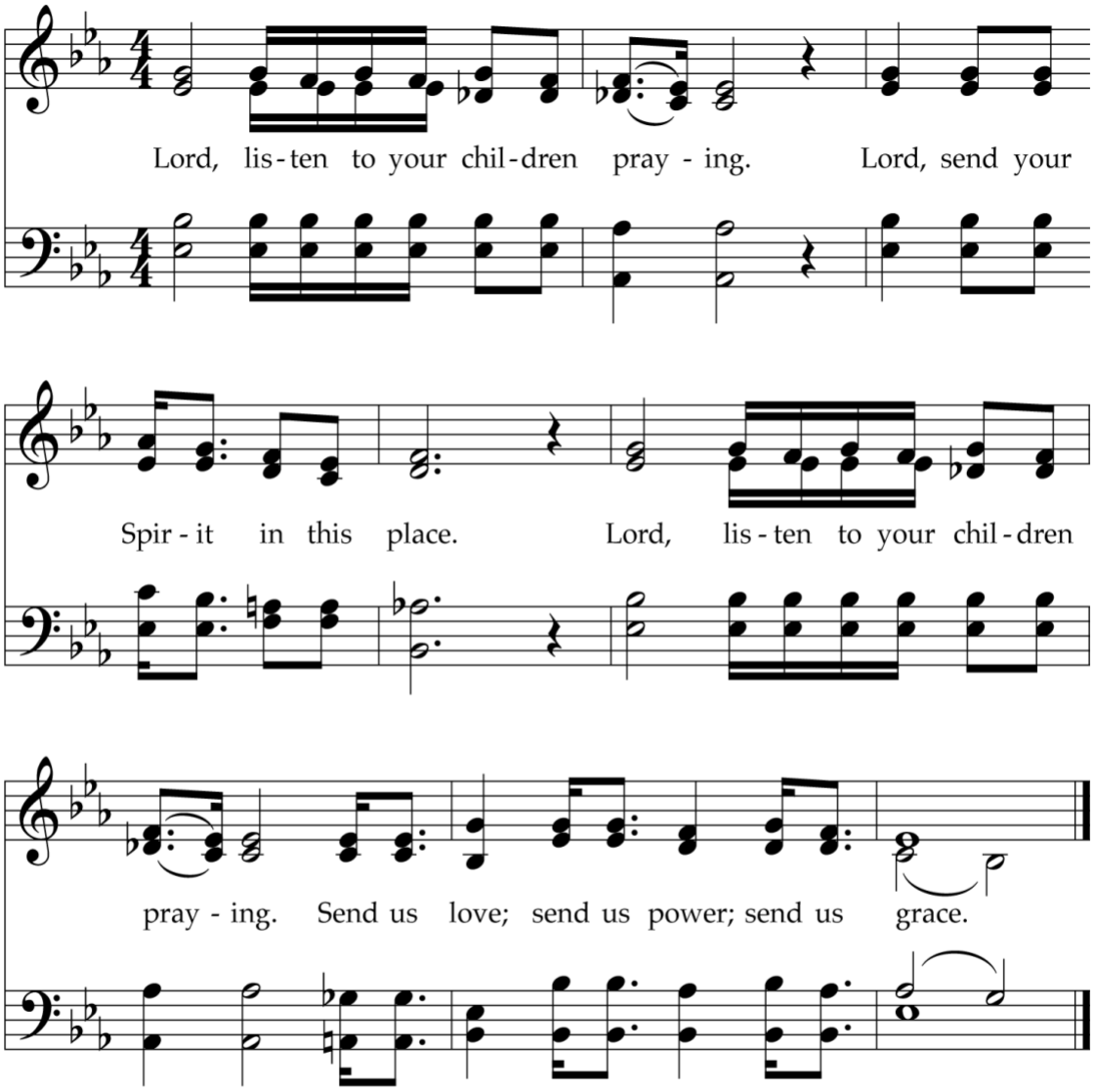
The Lord Is My Song



This chant from the Taizé Community in France is provided with two sets of words, either of which can be used as best suits the occasion. The first text is based on Psalm 102:1–2, and the second is an amalgam of phrases drawn from Psalms 118:14, 25:5, 36:9, and John 4:14.

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1982, 1991
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1982
Text and Music © 1982 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying 469
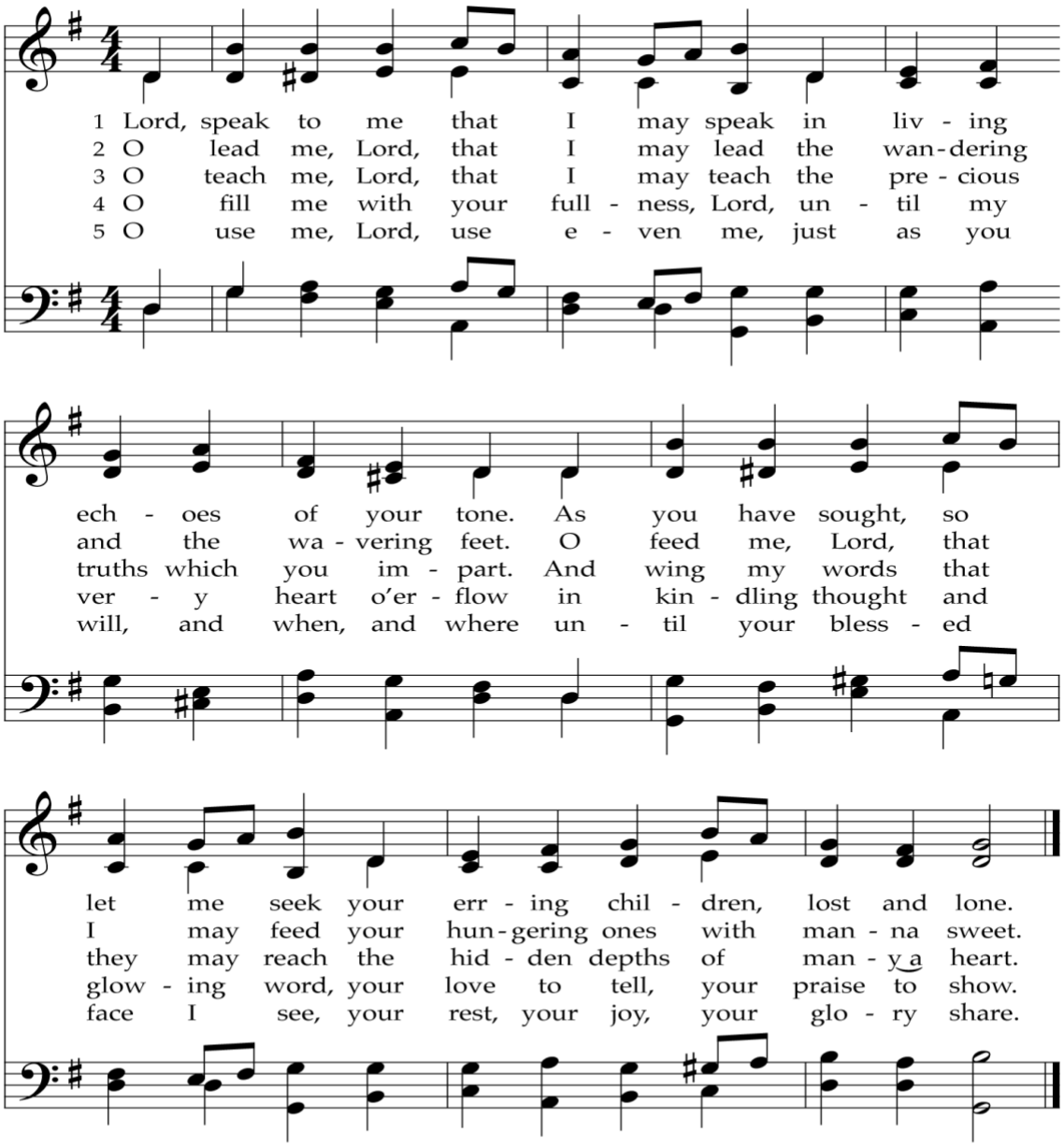


This chorus from a longer song has become a popular sung prayer for the presence of the Holy Spirit. Easily memorized, it makes a very suitable sung response at appropriate points during a series of prayer concerns or with repeated singing can open or close a time of prayer.

TEXT and MUSIC: Ken Medema, 1970
Text and Music © 1973 Hope Publishing Company

CHILDREN PRAYING
Irregular

DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION

722 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
LM