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

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 24, 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 — **"Andante" (from Six Bagatelles, Opus 126)** — ***Beethoven***

Minute for Mission for the Peace and Global Witness Offering — **Barbara Tartir**

***Gathering Words** — **Eric Miller**

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

When our spirits are restless and unsettled,
when peace is nowhere to be found,
the grace of God wraps around us.
We do not rush through periods of darkness,
but welcome their gifts that transform.

In seasons of despair, truth comes to wrestle with us.
In silence, honesty voices its concerns.

From the unknowns that surround, possibilities emerge.
Courage calls us to linger patiently in discomfort.

In the light of day and the dark of night, God is with us.
Thanks be to God who upholds us in love.

Opening Prayer — **Eric Miller**

Holy Agitator, come and wrestle with our hearts.
Push and pull on our self-understandings.
Challenge our perceptions that confine and confront our thinking that leads us to harm.
Meet us in the places deep within
and let your Spirit lead us in truth and healing. Amen.

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

Call to Confession Sherry Hatter-Miller

The Psalmist says that God know us more intimately
than we know our own thoughts and God loves us as we are.
So let us confess our failures, our fears
and our hopes to God so we may find peace and renewal.

Prayer of Confession Sherry Hatter-Miller

**You are a God of close relationship, a God who sits down beside us,
gets your hands dirty, stays in it with us.
You reach out and draw us into full, real presence.
You put your whole heart in and ask us to do the same.**

**Forgive us when we hold back because we don't want to be changed.
Forgive us when we turn away because you don't fit our neat categories.
Forgive us when we aren't willing to invest in our relationship with you.**

**Wrestle away our idols, our self-sufficiency, our need to get our own way,
and bless us with a glimpse of your face
and an abiding knowledge of your saving grace.
We ask in your holy name. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Musical Response No. 471 "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" (verse 1 sung twice) *Hear My Prayer*

Assurance of Forgiveness **Sherry Hatter-Miller**

Beloveds,
Here, face to face, God meets us.
Here, face to face, we can speak every longing in our heart.
Here, face to face, God forgives us.

**Here, face to face, we meet the One who has great compassion for us,
and who calls and blesses us into a new creation.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Musical Offering "When Peace, Like a River/The Water is Wide" ***arr. Rachel Trelstad Porter***

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 **Genesis 32:22-31 (CEB)** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

22 Jacob got up during the night, took his two wives, his two women servants, and his eleven
sons, and crossed the Jabbok River's shallow water. 23 He took them and everything that
belonged to him, and he helped them cross the river. 24 But Jacob stayed apart by himself, and a
man wrestled with him until dawn broke. 25 When the man saw that he couldn't defeat Jacob, he
grabbed Jacob's thigh and tore a muscle in Jacob's thigh as he wrestled with him. 26 The man
said, "Let me go because the dawn is breaking."

But Jacob said, "I won't let you go until you bless me."

27 He said to Jacob, "What's your name?" and he said, "Jacob."28 Then he said, "Your name won't
be Jacob any longer, but Israel, because you struggled with God and with men and won."

29 Jacob also asked and said, “Tell me your name.”
But he said, “Why do you ask for my name?” and he blessed Jacob there. 30 Jacob named the place Peniel, “because I’ve seen God face-to-face, and my life has been saved.”

31 The sun rose as Jacob passed Penuel, limping because of his thigh.

Sermon **Your Name Will Be Israel** **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Hymn No. 250** **“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”** ***Promise

Sharing of Joys and Concerns **Eric and Sherry Hatter-Miller**

Prayer of the people **Eric and Sherry Hatter-Miller**

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. 697** **“Take My Life”**
Hendon

Benediction **Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy**

Postlude "Air" (from the 14th Suite) *G.F. Handel*

The service continues with fellowship.

*The call to confession and assurance of forgiveness were written by Rev. Dr. Enikö Ferenczy. The Gathering Words and Opening Prayer were adopted from *Enfleshed: Liturgy That Matters*. The prayer of confession was adapted from Rev. Teri Peterson, who creates liturgy for the *Bibleworm Narrative Lectionary Collaborative.*

*Hymns are from the Glory to God Hymnal.

*Music: Karolyn Rice

*Sunday Service Assistants/Treats/Flowers: Eric and Sherry Hatter-Miller

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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.

GIVE NOW

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, Sept. 24

- Worship Service – 10 am – Mackey Hall
  150th Anniversary Planning potluck following worship
- Wooster Friends Meeting – 10.30 am – The Meeting Place

Monday, Sept. 25

- Troop 61 – 6 pm – The Meeting Place

Wednesday, Sept. 27

- CAMO – 9.30 am - noon – Orrville

Thursday, Sept. 28

- Dance and Exercise – 8.30 am – The Meeting Place

Sunday, Oct. 1

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

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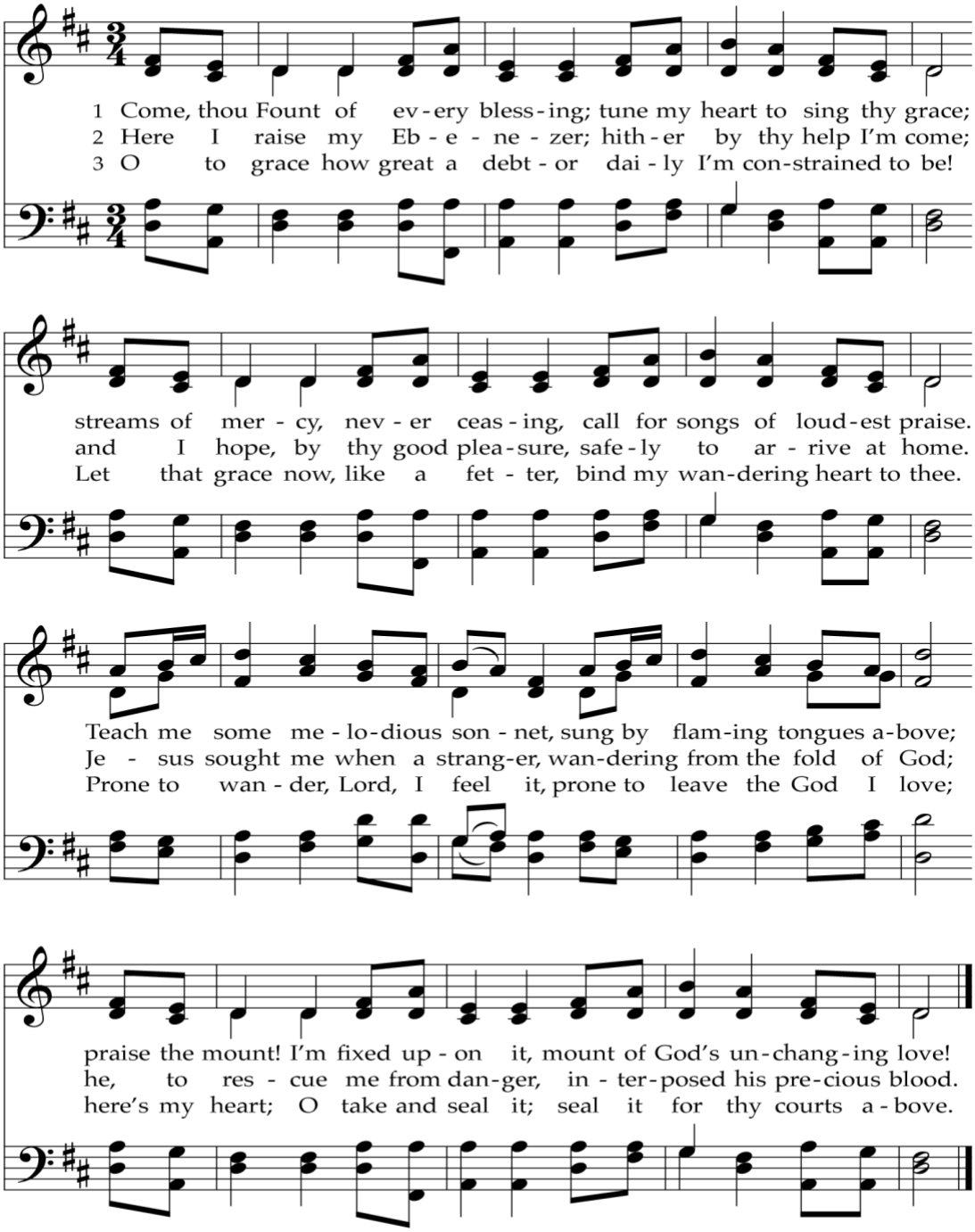
Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Minister of Music Rev. Dr. Thomas Shaw
Office Administrator Rev. Dr. James Henery
AV Assistant/Event Steward Tony Mendiola
Custodian Kara Akers

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
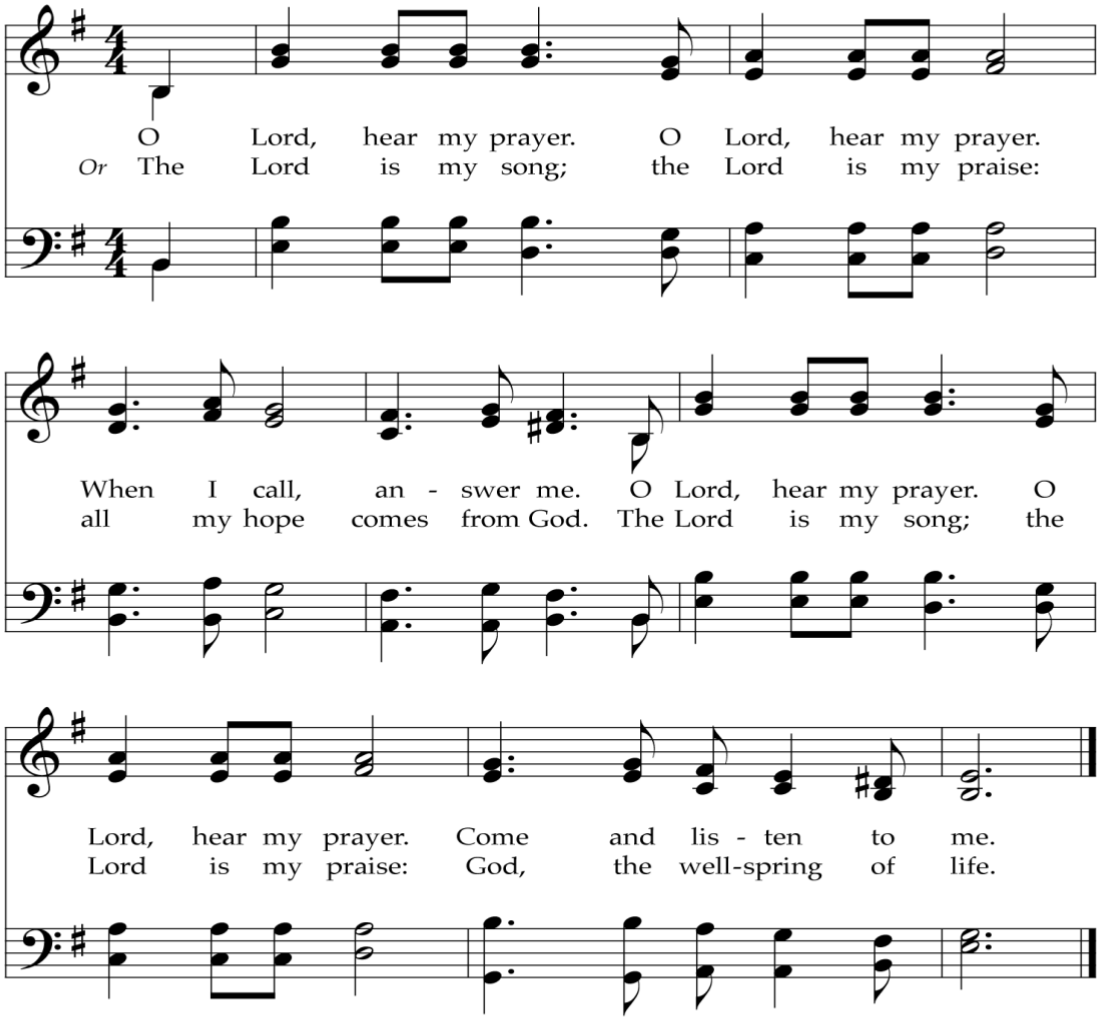


Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

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
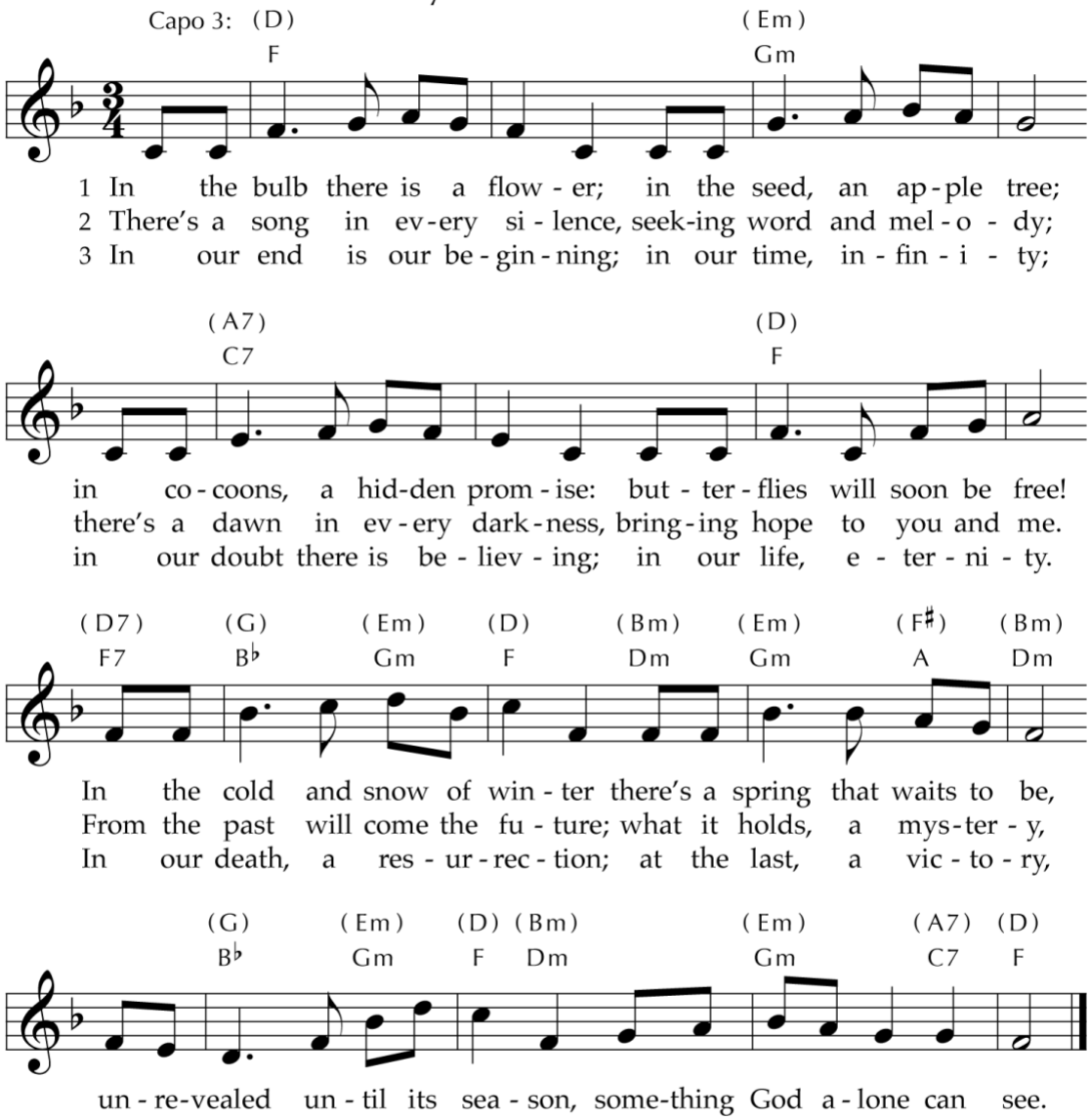


This chant from the Taizé Community in France is provided with two sets of words, either of which can be used as best suits the occasion. The first text is based on Psalm 102:1–2, and the second is an amalgam of phrases drawn from Psalms 118:14, 25:5, 36:9, and John 4:14.

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

HEAR MY PRAYER
5.5.6.D

In the Bulb There Is a Flower 250

Hymn of Promise
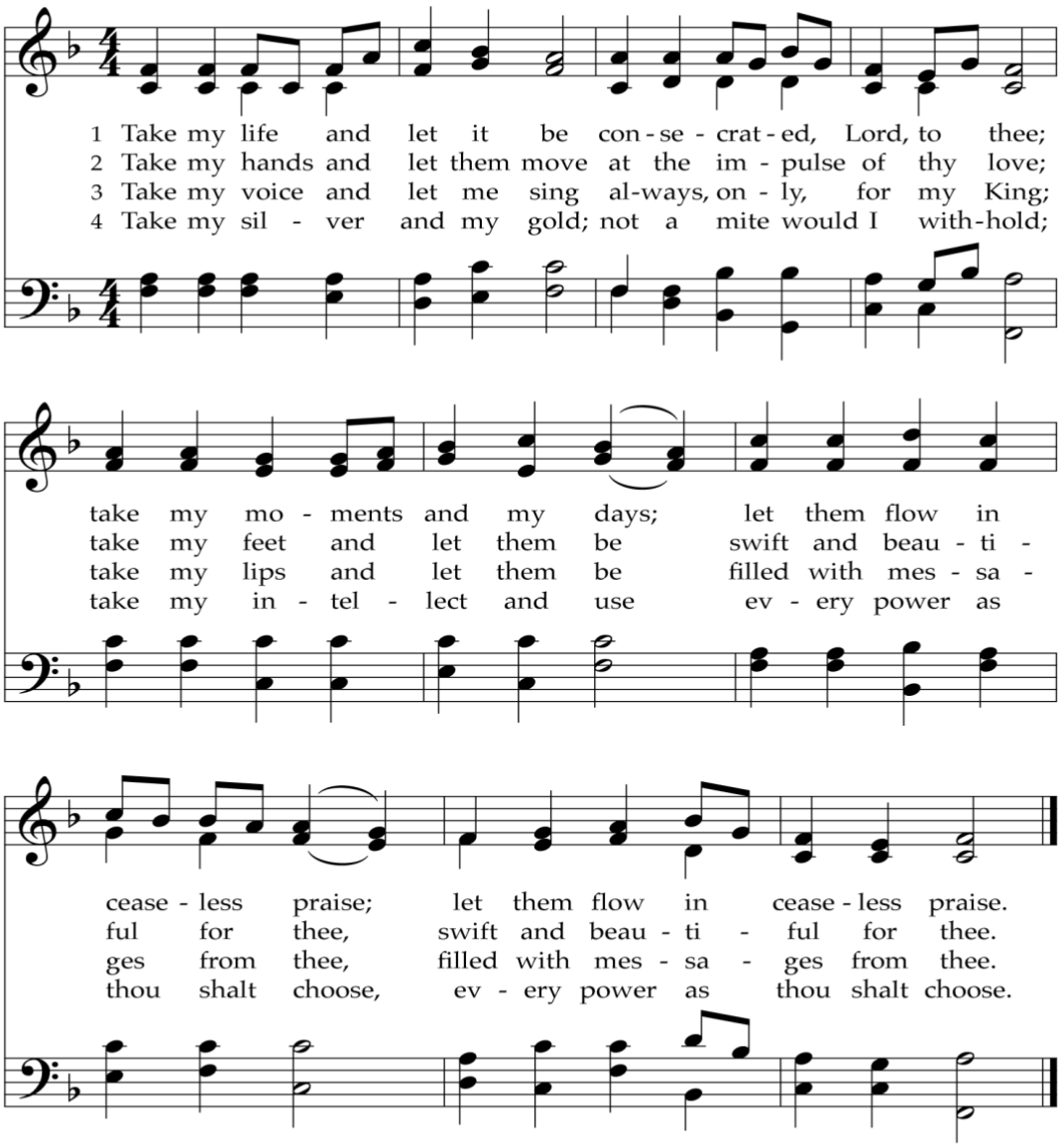


The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T. S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning." Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/composer's husband was diagnosed with what proved to be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.

TEXT and MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986
Text and Music © 1986 Hope Publishing Company

PROMISE
8.7.8.7.D

Take My Life 697



5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

This hymn of consecration radiates from the repeated word "take," resulting in a remarkably full survey of a person's attributes and possessions and giving weight to the "all" at the end. The composer of the tune was influential in the renewal of Reformed hymnody in French.

TEXT: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874
MUSIC: H. A. César Malan, 1827

HENDON
7.7.7.7