

Ephesians

Prayers, reflections,
new hymns, and scripture
for
public worship and
personal devotions

from the series:
**Fresh Views of
Timeless Truths**

Ken Bible

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Ephesians 1:1-3

(NASB)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,

To the saints who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.

Complete Your Love in Us

Ephesians 1:1-14; 2:1-22; 3:14-21; 4:1-32; 5:1-2, 15-33; 6:1-9

Father, You are love.
As You immerse us in Yourself,
 You immerse us in love.

Your work in us begins in love.
When we were far away and
 walking the other direction,
Your love patiently,
 sacrificially
 drew us near.

In the heavenly places,
 in the power center of all reality,
You blessed us abundantly in Your Son Jesus Christ.
You lavished on us eternal gifts
 beyond our understanding.

You rooted us in love.
You planted us in
 the rich soil of Your boundless goodness.
As we grow in love and
 grow in You,
we bear the fruit of love,
 nourishing the needy hearts all around us.

As You began Your salvation in love,
 You will complete it in love.
You will come to us again.
You will take us fully to Yourself.
We will forever be
 Your chosen people,
 Your holy temple,
 Your glorious bride.

Praise to You, Father!
As we trust and obey You,
 complete Your love in us.

Hymn recording: [Love Has Brought Us Near](#)

Love Has Brought Us Near

Ephesians 1:1-14; 2:1-22; 3:14-21; 4:1-32; 5:1-2, 15-33; 6:1-9

Unison
♩ = 88

D $\overset{A^7}{\underset{D}{\text{sus}}}$ G $\overset{GM^7}{\underset{A}{\text{A}}}$ D $\overset{D}{\underset{A}{\text{A}}}$ D $\overset{D}{\underset{F\sharp}{\text{F}}}$ G $\overset{Em}{\underset{G}{\text{G}}}$ $\overset{G}{\underset{D}{\text{D}}}$ D $\overset{G}{\underset{A}{\text{A}}}$ A $\overset{A}{\underset{E}{\text{E}}}$ A

1. Love has brought us near, Kissed us with for - give - ness,
2. Root - ed in Your love, We are green and grow - ing,
3. Love will bring us home, Home to You, our Fa - ther,

D $\overset{F\sharp m}{\underset{C\sharp}{\text{C}}}$ G $\overset{A}{\underset{C\sharp}{\text{C}}}$ $\overset{G}{\underset{D}{\text{D}}}$ D $\overset{A}{\underset{E}{\text{E}}}$ $\overset{D}{\underset{F\sharp}{\text{F}}}$ G $\overset{GM^7}{\underset{F\sharp}{\text{F}}}$ $\overset{D}{\underset{F\sharp}{\text{F}}}$ $\overset{GM^7}{\underset{A}{\text{A}}}$ $\overset{A^7}{\underset{E}{\text{sus}}}$ A $\overset{A^7}{\underset{E}{\text{E}}}$ A

Poured out all the bless - ings of Your great and ten - der heart.
Bear - ing ho - ly fruit that spreads Your bless - ings all a - round.
Joy - ful in Your pres - ence, breath - ing rich and per - fect peace.

D $\overset{A^7}{\underset{D}{\text{sus}}}$ $\overset{G}{\underset{A}{\text{A}}}$ $\overset{GM^7}{\underset{A}{\text{A}}}$ D G $\overset{G^6}{\underset{D}{\text{D}}}$ $\overset{G}{\underset{D}{\text{D}}}$ D $\overset{G}{\underset{A}{\text{A}}}$ A $\overset{A}{\underset{E}{\text{E}}}$ A

Fa - ther, You are love, Pure and per - fect good - ness.
Love has built us up, Christ, our sure foun - da - tion,
Love will make us one, One with You for - ev - er,

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

LOVE IN EPHESIANS
5.6.13.5.6.13.5.

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D $\frac{F\sharp m}{C\sharp}$ G B $\frac{A}{C\sharp}$ G D F \sharp Bm $\frac{D}{A}$ Em⁷ $\frac{D}{F\sharp}$ G⁶ $\frac{G^6}{B}$ $\frac{G}{B}$

All Your grace and bound - less wealth You give us in Your
 We, Your ho - ly tem - ple filled with wor - ship to our
 One with Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, full in You, our

A sus $\frac{A\text{ sus}}{E}$ A sus A G $\frac{D}{F\sharp}$ Em⁷ A⁷ D $\frac{D}{A}$ D

Son, God. Lord! Je - sus Christ Your Son.
 Praise to You, our God!
 Praise to You, our Lord!

Ephesians 1:3-14

(NASB)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth.

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.

In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation – having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, which is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

Prayer Response to Ephesians 1:3-14

Father, thank You for blessing me
super-abundantly,
eternally
in Jesus Christ.

Thank You for choosing me and
adopting me as Your own child
in Jesus Christ.

Thank You for wiping out
all my sins and
all my sinfulness,
completely and forever,
in Jesus Christ.

Thank You for showing me that
at the right time,
You will bring together all reality
in Jesus Christ.

Thank You for giving me a part in
all You are and
all are doing, Father, and for
allowing me to glorify You
in Jesus Christ.

Thank You for giving me the very Spirit of Jesus Christ Himself
as a down payment that I enjoy freely now.
This great gift is Your guarantee that when the time is perfect,
You will fulfill every promise You have ever made and
every beautiful purpose of Your loving heart,
in Jesus Christ.

Hymn recording: [Ephesians 1](#)

Ephesians 1

Verses 3-14

♩ = 66

Refrain

G
Unison

Bm Bm⁷ C $\frac{C}{E}$ G $\frac{G}{F\#}$ Em $\frac{E_{sus}}{D}$ CM⁷ C⁶ D^{sus} D

Praise God, my heart is free! The Lord of Love has cho-sen me!

G Bm Bm⁷ C $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{G}{D}$ $\frac{D}{C}$ $\frac{G}{B}$ CM⁷ D⁷ G *5th time only* Fine

Joy is my des-ti-ny! All glo-ry be to Je-sus!

A - dopt - ed as His ho - ly child, I live by trust - ing Je - sus.

Now freed from all the sin with-in, A-dopt-ed as His ho-ly child, I

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Traditional Irish Folk Tune and Ken Bible

THE BOG TUNE
Irregular

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Em G D CM7 D⁷_{sus} D.C. 3 G G G/B CM7 C/D

live by trust - ing Je - sus. An heir to all He has and is, Now

G G/B CM7 C/D G G/B CM7 C/D

freed from all the sin with - in, A - dopt - ed as His ho - ly child, I

Em G D CM7 D⁷_{sus} D.C. 4 G G G/B CM7 C/D

live by trust - ing Je - sus. His Spir - it as my guar - an - tee, An

G G/B CM7 C/D G G/B CM7 C/D

heir to all He has and is, Now freed from all the sin with - in, A -

G G/B CM7 C/D Em G D CM7 D⁷_{sus} D.C. al Fine D⁷

dopt - ed as His ho - ly child, I live by trust - ing Je - sus.

Ephesians 1:15-23

(NIV)

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

You Are the Blessing

Exodus 34:5-7; Psalm 86:15; John 1:14, 17

Father, how You long to bless Your people with all Your best!
And You Yourself are the gift You most long to give.
You are the prosperity that You pour into our souls.
You are the peace, the harmony, the completeness, the well-being
 with which You would fill us and our world.
Your own Spirit is the blessing that You would
 breathe and
 speak and
 sing
throughout all we are
into every corner of the universe.

Father, in You we are cradled in Your
 unfailing love and
 absolute dependability.
You are unfailing love.
You are absolute dependability.

In You we possess all things.
In You we possess all the riches of reality
 rather than this world's passing illusions.
You are All-in-all,
 the Source,
 the Goal, and
 the Giver.
Whom do we have in heaven but You?
And on earth, what could we ever need but You?
In life,
 in death,
 in all the world,
 in all eternity,
there is nothing we could want but
the blessing You will soon give in all its fullness:
 Yourself.

Hymn recording: [The Blessing of the Lord](#)

The Blessing of the Lord

1 Corinthians 3:21-23; Ephesians 1:3-23; 2:4-7; 3:8, 16;
Philippians 4:19; Colossians 2:2; 1 Timothy 6:17-19

♩ = 69

A⁷ D $\frac{D}{A}$ A⁷ $\frac{A^7_{sus}}{D}$ D $\frac{A^7_{sus}}{D}$ D A⁷ A¹³

1. You long to make us rich in You, O sov - 'reign Lord of
2. You call us to a sim - ple faith, You draw us from our
3. You call to us, "Come fol - low Me, And find what life can

D $\frac{A^7}{E}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{A}{G}$ $\frac{A_{sus}}{G}$ $\frac{G}{D}$ D $\frac{D}{A}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G G⁶ $\frac{E^7}{G\#}$ $\frac{Bm}{G\#}$

all, To lav - ish Your mag - ni - fi - cence On us, so weak and
doubt, For when we turn and trust in You, The peace comes pour - ing
be! My gifts are but a drop of rain, My pres - ence is the

A^{sus} A⁷ D $\frac{D}{A}$ A⁷ $\frac{A^7_{sus}}{D}$ D $\frac{A^7_{sus}}{D}$

small. We're shame - ful - ly dis - tract - ed from Your
out. You lure us t'ward Your hap - pi - ness With
sea! To - day I'll glad - ly walk with you. Our

D F^{\#m} F^{\#m7} G F^{\#m7} E^{m7} A A^{sus}

rich - es un - ex - plored While You bathe us ev - 'ry
un - de - served re - ward When we stop to sim - ply
E - den is re - stored! Chil - dren, come and live for -

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Traditional Folk Song and Ken Bible

BLESSING
8.6.8.6.8.6.9.6.

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last time rit.

mo - ment in The bless - ing of the Lord.
praise You for The bless - ing of the Lord.
ev - er in The bless - ing of the Lord!"

Ephesians 2:1-13

(NIV)

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands) – remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

Mercy

Almighty God, I don't need a major moral failure
to experience Your mercy.
I experience Your mercy every time you give me
what I don't deserve.

You are an unbounded Being,
complete in Yourself,
the Source of all life and all that is.
My existence is a mercy.

You are infinite in excellence,
perfect in power, wisdom, and love.
You graciously gave me fellowship with You.
I rejected You and chose myself:
a speck of dust,
a breath,
utterly corrupt.
I chose death,
yet You continue to give me life.
Every moment is a mercy.

I am insignificant.
Living in Your presence,
sharing existence with You,
I deserve to be summarily destroyed,
or at best, completely ignored.
Your attention is a mercy.
Even Your anger,
Your judgment,
Your condemnation are mercies.

Holy and just God,
You know all that I have
thought and
said and
done.
Condemned, I deserve whatever punishment can be inflicted
on such a miserable creature as me.
Your total forgiveness is
an unspeakable mercy.

Though I am marvelously forgiven,
my response to You continues to be
lukewarm,
inconsistent, and
ungrateful.

I deserve Your disgust.

Instead, in mercy
You fill me with Yourself and
tenderly grow me toward You.

Day by day, every breath is
a mercy.

This beautiful earth is
a mercy.

Every chance to know You better is
a mercy.

Your faithful Spirit is
such a mercy!

The amazing privilege of prayer is
a mercy.

Your unfailing patience with
my ignorance,
weakness, and
selfishness is
a mercy.

*Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions
never fail. They are new every morning. (Lamentations 3:22-23, NIV)*

Almighty God,
my Father,
You are compassion.
You are kindness and goodness.
You are deep and enduring love.

My entire existence,
every moment and forever,
is enfolded in
Your unending mercy.

Praise to You!
All praise to You,
my Savior and my God!

Hymn recording: [Sea of Mercy](#)

Sea of Mercy

*Exodus 34:6-7; Deuteronomy 7:9; Psalm 36:5-6a; 100:5; 118:1; 145:8-9;
Lamentations 3:22-23; Micah 7:18-19; Romans 11:32;
Ephesians 2:4-7; Titus 3:4-5; Hebrews 4:16*

♩ = 88

$\frac{G}{A}$ A D E_m^9 $\frac{A^7}{E}$ D $\frac{A_{sus}}{E}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{Gadd9}{F\#}$ E_m^7

1. When first I drew an in - fant's breath, I sailed a sea of
 2. I turned, and You for - gave my past. Lord, what a sea of

D $\frac{F\#m}{A}$ $\frac{G}{A}$ A^7 D $\frac{F\#m^7}{C\#}$ $\frac{A}{C\#}$ Bm $\frac{D}{A}$ G $\frac{Gadd9}{F\#}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G M7 $\frac{E_m^7}{A}$ A $\frac{G}{A}$

mer - cy. This life, this world, these gifts, my Lord, Were flow - ing all from
 mer - cy! Now ev - 'ry day in You, my God, I'm more than I can

D $\frac{G}{D}$ $\frac{A}{G}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ D $F\#m$ G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{D^6}{F\#}$ $\frac{Gadd9}{F\#}$ G M7

You. When bound by sin and blind - ness, So sure that I was
 be. I love You, and I fol - low. That's all that I can

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Traditional Scottish Tune and Ken Bible

SEA OF MERCY
8.7.8.6.7.6.8.6.6.

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A sus A^{sus}_E A G_A A⁷ D F[#]m⁷_{C[#]} A_{C[#]} Bm D_A G Gadd9

free, do. I saw Your face and heard Your voice And That

D_A A[#]°7 F[#]7_{A[#]} Bm F[#]m_A G M⁷ G D_{F[#]} G M⁷ E^m7_A A G_A 1 D G_D

found Your love for me. My God, what love for me!
car - ries me to You. I'm com - ing, Lord, to

2 D G M⁷_A G_A Bm D_A G E^m7 D

You!

Ephesians 2:14-22

(NASB)

For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thus establishing peace, and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.

And He came and preached peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and are of God's household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

Greater Than the Temple

In Christ, God's temple became more than anyone imagined it could be.

The temple was a building, designed as a house of prayer for all nations (Isaiah 56:7). It was a place of joy where people could talk with God, learn of Him, worship Him, and be assured of His care (Isaiah 2:2-5). In a sense, the temple made God's presence tangible.

Jesus began coming to the temple when He had to be carried (Luke 2:21-39). There His parents presented the infant Jesus to His true Father and dedicated Him to His service.

Virtually all that we know about Jesus' childhood is His devotion to His Father and to the temple (Luke 2:41-52). Even at age twelve, He thought of the temple as His Father's house. His desire to be about His Father's work drew Him there to a degree that confounded even His parents.

As an adult, Jesus continued to think of the temple as His Father's house. Thus He came to it in a unique capacity, as the Son of God (Matthew 17:24-27). He seemed to come at every opportunity. There He spoke the Father's words and did the Father's works. People who came to Jesus in the temple met their God face-to-face. He spent time with them, rubbed shoulders with them, taught them, and healed them.

They also experienced the Son's all-consuming zeal for His Father's house. They sensed His passion as, with sovereign authority, He cleansed it of all that distracted from God Himself (Matthew 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-16; Luke 19:45-46; John 2:14-22).

Yet Jesus also lifted people's sights beyond the temple buildings. He taught the Samaritan woman that true worship transcended the temple. Life could be engulfed in worship that flowed directly from our spirits to His, unencumbered by time and place (John 4:20-24). Referring to Himself, He told the Pharisees that *"something greater than the temple is here"* (Matthew 12:6, NASB). He proclaimed His own body as the true temple of God. The magnificent temple structures, which had taken forty-six years to build, would soon be completely leveled (Matthew 24:2). But when His bodily temple was destroyed, it would rise again in only three days (John 2:19).

The Spirit of Christ drew the early Church to the temple almost continually (Luke 24:52-53; Acts 2:46). Through Paul, the Spirit taught the Church that they themselves were God's living temple, His holy presence on earth (1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 6:19; 2 Corinthians 6:1; Ephesians 2:19-22). The New Testament closes with the promise that soon, life will be so completely engulfed in God that a temple building will be unnecessary (Revelation 21:22).

In Jesus' zeal for the temple, we glimpse the Son's deep love for His Father, and the Father's burning desire to be forever one with His children.

Hymn recording: [We Have Come, God's Living Temple](#)

We Have Come, God's Living Temple

TUNE: Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (LAUDA ANIMA)

*Psalm 122:1; John 2:19-22; 4:23-24; Romans 12:1; 1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 6:19;
2 Corinthians 6:16; Ephesians 2:19-22; 4:11-16*

♩ = 92

Unison

D A⁷_E D F⁷_♯ DM⁷_{F⁷_♯} Gadd9 G D G B GM⁷_B G A Bm Em⁷ A A_G

1. We have come, God's liv - ing tem - ple, In the joy of Christ the Son.
2. Set a - side all vain dis - trac - tions. Lay your needs be - fore His throne.
3. Christ is God's e - ter - nal tem - ple, All His ho - ly pres - ence here.
4. Go and shine with God's own pres - ence! Live the love of Christ the Son.

F⁷_♯ F⁷_{A⁷_♯} Bm F⁷_{C⁷_♯} Bm D D Esus E⁷_♯ F⁷_♯ E A D F⁷_♯ Bm E⁷ A A_G

Here the Fa - ther's word is spo - ken. Here His gra - cious work is done.
Give your hands, a ho - ly of - f'ring. You are His and not your own.
By His Spir - it, we His bod - y Live to make His pres - ence clear,
By your words let Him be spo - ken, By your hands His work be done.

D F⁷_♯ DM⁷_{F⁷_♯} G D Bm F⁷_♯ G D A Em⁷ D F⁷_♯ Em G D A A D

Breathe His Spir - it! Drink His good - ness! Heav - en's life is here be - gun.
All your spir - it praise His Spir - it! Turn your tho'ts to Him a - lone.
Lov - ing, learn - ing, giv - ing, grow - ing Till our Lord Him - self ap - pear.
Breathe His Spir - it, share his good - ness Till His glo - rious King - dom come!

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: John Goss; arr. by Ken Bible

LAUDA ANIMA
8.7.8.7.8.7.

Alt. Tunes: CWM RHONDDA; REGENT SQUARE

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Ephesians 3:1-13

(NASB)

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles – if indeed you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace which was given to me for you; that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief.

By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel, of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which was given to me according to the working of His power.

To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things; so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.

This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.

Therefore I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf, for they are your glory.

Cross Every Barrier

Transcendent God,
unseen God,
high and holy God,
You have broken down every barrier between
You and
us.

You have come to us and
made Yourself
fully,
humbly,
humanly one with us.

As You are now one with us,
we are one with You.
We share Your life.
We share Your love.
Within our hearts is the love that
breaks down every barrier and
crosses every boundary.
No human being is off-limits to Your great compassion.
No one is too unlovely.
No one is too sinful.
No one is too needy.

Father, live that love through us.
You have broken down every barrier.
May we let none of those old barriers stand in our way –
not race or religion,
not language or geography,
not culture or education,
not sexual orientation or social status,
not comfort, self-centeredness, or fear.
You are the Father of us all, and
Your almighty love respects no boundaries.
Make us bold in You,
loving in You,
joyful in You,
ever sacrificing ourselves freely, completely to You.

O great Father of all,
lead us everywhere Your love longs to go.

Hymn recording: [Beyond All Barriers](#)

in honor of Ron Mathieu

Beyond All Barriers

2 Corinthians 5:14-20; Ephesians 2:1-18

♩ = 84

Chord progression: Eb, Bb/D, Eb, Eb/D, Ab/C, Bb7/D, Eb, Bb/D, Cm, Eb/G, Ab, Ab6

1. High and ho - ly un - seen God, So pure and far a -
2. Now Your mer - cy calls to us To share what we re -
3. None can be too far a - way, And none too near at

Chord progression: Bbsus, Bb, Eb/G, Eb/F, Eb, Bb/D, Eb, Eb/D, Ab/C, Bb7/D, Eb, Bb/D

bove, We were lost and dead in sin, But
ceived, Out be - yond these un - seen walls To
hand. All can know Your lov - ing touch, Can

Chord progression: Eb, Eb/sus, Eb/G, Gm, Cm7, Cm7/G, F/A, Bb, Cm, Gm/Bb, Bb7/Ab, Eb/G, Gm

noth - ing blocks Your love. Ev - 'ry bar - rier
prove what we be - lieve. See, the bar - riers
feel and un - der - stand. May the liv - ing,

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Edwin M. Willmington

MATHIEU
7.6.7.6.7.6.7.6.

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A^b B^b9 E^b2 E^b G Cm Gm B^b E^b Gm A^b $Fm6$
 A^b A^b G G B B^b A^b G

fell be - fore Com - pas - sion's burn - ing flame.
 all are gone! We'll live - the love we know.
 lov - ing Christ Be - come the God they know.

E^b E^b E^b B^b E^b $Fm7$ A^b B^b7 E^b E^b E^b Gm A^b $Fm9$ B^b7sus B^b7E^bsus E^bsus E^b
 G F D D E^b E^b E^b D F G C

Ev - 'ry wall was bro - ken down. When mer - cy called, You came.
 Fear and com - fort will not rule. Love calls, and we will go.
 Lead us, Fa - ther, ev - 'ry - where Your lov - ing heart would go.

Ephesians 3:14-21

(NIV)

For this reason I kneel before the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name.
I pray that out of his glorious riches
he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

And I pray that you,
being rooted and established in love,
may have power together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how
wide and
long and
high and
deep
is the love of Christ, and to
know this love that surpasses knowledge –
that you may be filled to the measure of
all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do
immeasurably more than all we
ask or
imagine,
according to his power that is at work within us,
to him be glory
in the church and
in Christ Jesus
throughout all generations,
for ever and ever!
Amen.

Please Yourself, Lord

My Lord Jesus,
I am amazed at
 how much life You have breathed
 into my deadness,
 how much loving wisdom
 into my selfish ignorance,
 how much consistency,
 how much holiness,
 how much of Yourself You have grown in me.

Loving Lord,
Almighty God,
Merciful Friend,
this is my prayer today:

Please Yourself in me.
Wrap Yourself around my thoughts,
 permeate my feelings,
 seize my heart,
 energize all You have made me.

Fulfill in me
 all that Your wisdom has planned and
 all that Your love has dreamed.

Lord, please Yourself fully in me today.

*Father,
I am from You.
May all I am flow back to You
for Your glory alone.*


Hymn recording: [Beyond Imagination](#)

Beyond Imagination


TUNE: O God, Our Help in Ages Past (ST. ANNE)
Psalms 34:8; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 3:14-21

♩ = 84

C C F $\frac{C}{E}$ Am $\frac{Dm^7}{F}$ G C Am Em $\frac{Am}{C}$ D G




1. Lord God, be - yond our thoughts and prayers, Be - yond all we can see,
2. His pres - ence bears de - li - cious fruit From gar - dens all a - bove.
3. With - in this life of flesh and blood, A life more deep and broad,
4. Lord God, be - yond all we can do Your bless - ing is re - stored:



G C F Dm G C FM7 $\frac{Dm}{F}$ E $\frac{C}{E}$ Dm C $\frac{Dm}{F}$ G7 C

Your Spir - it grows with - in our hearts A new re - al - i - ty.
We taste and see that You are good And glad - ly trust Your love.
A bound - less life, a life com - plete: The full - ness of our God!
We breathe the heart, the life and love Of Je - sus Christ our Lord!



WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: William Croft

ST. ANNE
C.M.

Alt. Tune: AZMON

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Ephesians 4:1-6

(NASB)

Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

Follow One Leader

*When he, the Spirit of truth, comes,
he will guide you into all truth. (John 16:13, NIV)*

So many valid concerns,
 so many worthy goals,
 so many good things call for our attention.
Focus on one aspect of your life, and
 other aspects seem to suffer.
Care for one need, and
 you ignore other equally important needs.

How do we balance them all?
How do we listen to all the voices
 calling for our attention?

Jesus gives us the freedom to
 follow only one leader.

He is our one Lord.
He is our one source of
 all wisdom and
 all goodness.

He calls us to love Him above anything.
He invites us to turn to Him
 whenever we need wisdom (James 1:5).

If we will listen,
 He will lead.

And as we are united with Him,
 we are united with all His people.

Hymn recording: [One in Jesus](#)

One in Jesus

TUNE: Traditional Irish Melody (THE MOREEN)
Ephesians 4


♩ = ca. 80

G⁷ C $\frac{G^7_{sus}}{C}$ $\frac{F}{C}$ C $\frac{G^7_{sus}}{C}$ C C $\frac{G}{B}$ Am $\frac{CM^7}{G}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ F G⁷ Am Em F⁶ G C G⁷



1. So man - y voic - es call my name, And each one de - mands I hear it. But
2. So man - y trou - bles come to us By the way we treat each oth - er, But

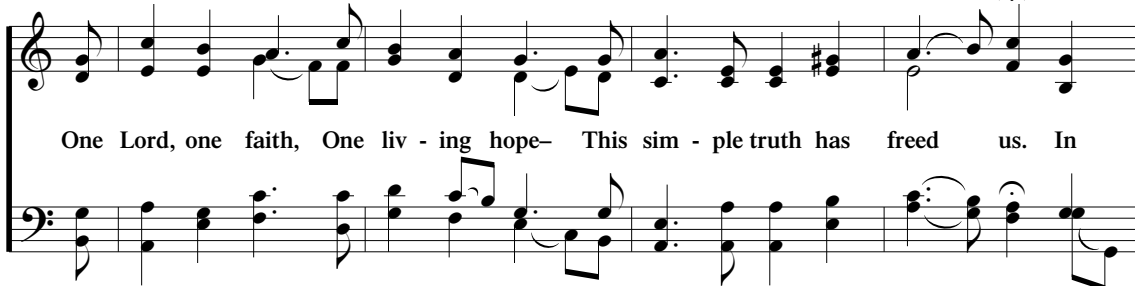
C $\frac{G^7_{sus}}{C}$ $\frac{F}{C}$ C $\frac{G^7_{sus}}{C}$ C C $\frac{G}{B}$ Am $\frac{CM^7}{G}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ F G⁷ Am Em F⁶ G C



now I sim - ply fol - low You, And I trust Your guid - ing Spir - it.
all who share Your life and love Are my sis - ters and my broth - ers.

Refrain

$\frac{G}{B}$ Am Em F Dm⁷ G $\frac{Dm^7}{F}$ $\frac{C}{E}$ C $\frac{G}{B}$ Am E Am $\frac{Em}{G}$ F G



One Lord, one faith, One liv - ing hope- This sim - ple truth has freed us. In

C $\frac{G^7_{sus}}{C}$ $\frac{F}{C}$ C $\frac{G^7_{sus}}{C}$ C C $\frac{G}{B}$ Am $\frac{CM^7}{G}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ F G⁷ Am Em F⁶ G⁷ C



You, O God, all life is one; We are one with You in Je - sus.

WORDS: Ken Bible

MUSIC: Traditional Irish Melody;
arr. by Ken Bible

THE MOREEN
L.M. w. Ref.

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Ephesians 4:7-16

(NIV)

But to each of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people." (What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.)

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up, until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

As We Live in Christ

As we live in Christ,
 we share His relationship with the Father.
We share their love
 for each other and
 for every human being.

As we live in Christ,
we share His bond of love with
 all those He loves and
 all those who love Him.
As we become one with Him,
 we become one with all those who are His.
All our relationships now go through Him.
 He is the unseen partner in each one.
We learn to love others because
 He loves them and
 we love Him.

As we live in Christ,
 we grow to love as He loves,
 show compassion as He shows compassion,
 be patient as He is patient,
 absorb wrongs done to us as He absorbed them,
 forgive as He forgave.
In loving all those around us, He is
 our master,
 our model,
 our standard,
 our source, and
 our goal.

Wives, husbands,
children, parents,
bosses, employees,
friends, enemies –
as we live in Christ,
we love each one with the
 gentle,
 self-giving,
 patient,
 persistent love of Christ.

As we trust Christ,
we live in Him,
 and love is the very breath of His heart.
As we trust Christ,
 He fills our beings with His own loving Spirit.
His Spirit helps us love everyone
 in Christ,
 for Christ,
 like Christ,
 as loving Christ Himself.

Hymn recording: [Live and Love and Grow in Christ](#)

Live and Love and Grow in Christ


TUNE: Shepherds! Shake Off Your Drowsy Sleep (BESANCON)

Matthew 5:43-48; John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13;

Ephesians 3:14-21; 4; 5; 6:1-9; 1 John 3:18


♩ = 52

D unis. D G A⁷ D D A



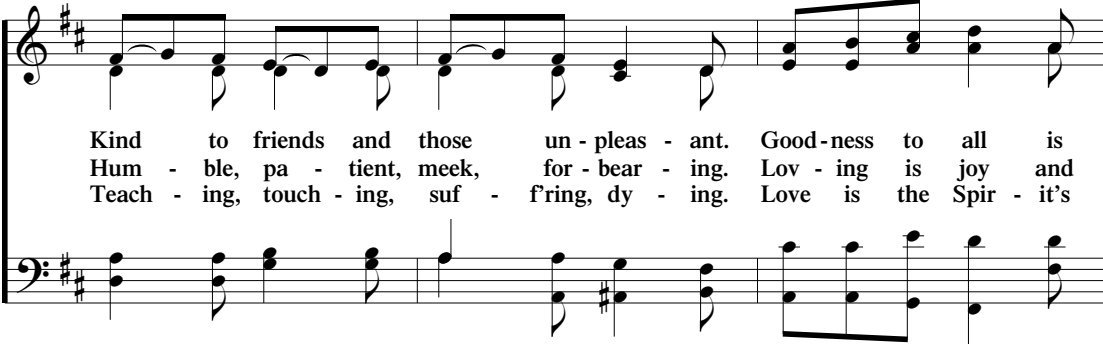
1. Liv - ing in Christ, we love in Him. Love now breathes and
2. Love as He loves, in word and deed. Give your time to
3. Love is the gift our God im - parts, Love, the Fa - ther's

E⁷ D E⁷ A A A⁹ A D Gadd⁹ G D A



grows with - in, Gen - tle with loved ones ev - er pres - ent,
those in need. Give them your - self by tru - ly car - ing,
ho - ly heart. Love is the Sav - ior's self - de - ny - ing,

D D^{sus} D G⁶ G G⁶ D D^{sus} D A[°] Bm A A⁹ A D



Kind to friends and those un - pleas - ant. Good - ness to all is
Hum - ble, pa - tient, meek, for - bear - ing. Lov - ing is joy and
Teach - ing, touch - ing, suf - fring, dy - ing. Love is the Spir - it's

WORDS: Ken Bible

MUSIC: Traditional French Carol; arr. by Ken Bible

BESANCON

8.7.9.8.8.7.

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Gadd⁹ G $\frac{D}{A}$ D $\frac{D}{F\sharp}$ $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{GM^7}{B}$ $\frac{A^7}{C\sharp}$ $\frac{A^7_{sus}}{C\sharp}$ A⁷ D

His de - light! Live and love and grow in Christ!
 sac - ri - fice. Live and love and grow in Christ!
 puls - ing life. Live and love and grow in Christ!

Ephesians 4:17-24

(NASB)

So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

But you did not learn Christ in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, that in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

Make This Day Holy

Lord, no matter what day of the week it is,
make this day a Sabbath,
set apart entirely to You.

Make every moment
holy.

Every thought,
holy.

Every word,
an offering.

Give every act
the fragrance of love.

Make my mind
a temple of prayer.
Today, Lord.

Make my life
a living sacrifice.

Make **me**
a living sacrifice,
holy, pleasing to You.

Holy, Lord.

Make this day
holy

by Your presence and
loving control.

Hymn recording: [Holy in You](#)

Holy in You

♩ = 72

1. May this day be ho - ly in You, in You, in
 2. Make my heart a tem - ple of prayer in in You, in
 3. Give my life the fra-grance of love in in You, in

Chords: F/G, G, C, Dm7, Cadd9/E, C/E, C, Gsus, G, G9/F

You. Have Your way, my Fa - ther, in all I do. May this
 You. May the needs of oth - ers be lift - ed there. Make my
 You. Make my spir - it gen - tle like Yours a - bove. Give my

Chords: C/E, G7/D, C, F/G, G, C, Dm7, Cadd9/E, C6/E, Am, C/E, C/G

day be ho - ly in You. Ho - ly, ho - ly
 heart a tem - ple of prayer. Ho - ly, ho - ly
 life the fra-grance of love. Ho - ly, ho - ly

Chords: F6, FM7, F/G, Em/G, G7, C, F, G/F

Lord! Ho - ly, Lord, in You! Ev - 'ry mo - ment,
 Lord! Ho - ly, Lord, in You! Ev - 'ry mo - ment,
 Lord! Ho - ly, Lord, in You! Ev - 'ry mo - ment,

Chords: Cadd9/E, C, C/B, Am, E7/G#, Am, Am/G, F, G/F, F

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

HOLY IN YOU
 Irregular

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C^{add9}/_E C⁶/_E A^m C/_E C/_G F⁶ F^{M7}/_G E/_G E^m/_G G⁷ 1, 2
 C D.C.

ev - 'ry breath, May this day be ho - ly in You.
 ev - 'ry breath, Make my heart a tem - ple of prayer.
 ev - 'ry breath, Give my life the fra - grance of

C/₃ F rit. F⁶/_A G⁷ C^{add9} C

love. Ho - ly, Lord, in You!

Ephesians 4:25-32

(NASB)

Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth each one of you with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity.

He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who as need.

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification, according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

Speaking and Listening

Ephesians 4:25-32; 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22

Father, I need Your Spirit living in me constantly.

But I hear Your warning:

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God. (Ephesians 4:30, NIV)

Do not cause Him sorrow or pain.

And:

Do not put out the Spirit's fire (1 Thessalonians 5:19, NIV).

Do not hinder His working among you.

Do not ignore His wisdom or frustrate His love.

Lord, how do I grieve You or cause You pain?

Ephesians 4:25-32 says that

I grieve You by what I say to my fellow believers.

I wound You with words spoken against my brothers and sisters,
words that are careless, angry, hasty, and self-serving.

When I hurt any member of Your Body, You feel the pain.

And how do I quench Your Spirit?

What do I do that hinders His work?

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 says that

when I fail to listen when other believers speak,

when I turn them off without hearing them,

I may be ignoring You.

For Your words don't usually come to us

through a booming voice from heaven.

But Your Spirit speaks

Your precious wisdom through

Your children.

Savior, help me cherish Your presence

in each of my brothers and sister.

As I speak to them,

may I always do so with the love I owe You.

As they speak to me,

let me listen from my heart, eager to hear

Your voice, my loving Lord.

Hymn recording: [Do Not Grieve the Holy Spirit](#)

Do Not Grieve the Holy Spirit

TUNE: I Will Arise

Ephesians 4:25, 29-31; 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22

1. Do not grieve the Ho - ly Spir - it By your
2. Do not quench the Spir - it's burn - ing- Lis - ten,
3. Je - sus, when I face Your chil - dren, Help me

quick, un - car - ing words. When your speak - ing hurts His
and re - ceive His joy. But re - mem - ber, He may
keep Your face in view, Al - ways speak - ing, al - ways

chil - dren, Thought - less - ly you hurt your Lord.
share it Through the simp - lest hu - man voice.
lis - t'ning Lov - ing - ly as if to You.

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: *Southern Harmony*, 1835

ARISE
8.7.8.7.

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Ephesians 5:1-20

(NASB)

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints; and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them; for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret.

But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light. For this reason it says,

“Awake, sleeper,
And arise from the dead,
And Christ will shine on you.”

Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with our heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father.

Prayer Response to Ephesians 5:1-20

Father, I am pleased when I see my children
imitating my better qualities.

Help me to daily imitate
Your character and
Your personality.

Shape the way I walk day by day.

Help me to walk
like Christ,
with every word, attitude, and action
flowing from His Spirit in me.

Help me to walk
joyfully,
rejecting every angry, bitter, anxious thought.

Help me to live
wisely,
in full response to You.

Help me to stay
focused on knowing Your will,
doing Your will,
always pleasing You.

Help me to remain
gladly ready to give myself, not
drawn away by greed,
dulled by self-indulgence, or
distracted by shallow physical stimulants.

Father, I want to be
giving thanks to You
always,
in all things,
with heart, mind, and voice.

I want to walk
as Your true child,
in the holy beauty of Your Son,
Jesus Christ.

Hymn recording: [Christ Is Shining in You](#)

Christ Is Shining in You

Ephesians 5:8-14

♩ = 104

Refrain

A - wake from your sleep! A - rise from the dead, For
Your dark - ness is past, Your morn - ing is come, For

Christ is shin - ing in you! Christ is shin - ing in you! 1. Come 2. The

learn what pleas - es God, And love what pleas - es God. Come
fruit of light is joy. The fruit of light is peace. The

live what pleas - es God. Come and walk in the light of the Lord!
fruit of light is hope. Come and walk in the light of the Lord!

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

EPHESIANS 5:14
Irregular

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Ephesians 5:21-33

(NIV)

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church – for we are members of his body.

“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” This is a profound mystery – but I am talking about Christ and the church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Reflection on Love

God created us
 from Himself.
God created human love
 from Himself –
love in all its richness: its
 mystery,
 pleasure,
 pain, and
 delight.
Love celebrates!
Love grieves.

Love fixes all its attentions on
 its beloved.
It gives itself completely,
 joyfully,
 lavishly,
 sacrificially,
 without counting the cost.

Love sees in its beloved what
 no one else can see.
Love sees a unique loveliness in that one.
Love admires,
 exalts, and
 crowns its beloved with all its very best.
Love hungers for deep union with that one,
a union that nothing else and
 no one else can satisfy.

Love longs.
Love seeks.
Love yearns.
Love waits.

God is love.
And each and every one of us
 is His beloved.

Hymn recording: [Love](#)

for Gloria

Love

Song of Solomon; 1 John 4:7-8, 16

$\text{♩} = 84$ Unison

C_m F_m G^9G C_m $\frac{\text{C}_m}{\text{E}^b}$ $\frac{\text{G}}{\text{F}}$ $\frac{\text{C}_m}{\text{E}^b}$ F_m B^b9B^b E^b $\frac{\text{G}^{\text{sus}}}{\text{F}}$ G

1. Love is heav - en's gar - den Where end - less glo - ries grow;
2. Lov - ers crave each oth - er With quench-less, deep de - sire.
3. Love de - lights in beau - ty That on - ly love can see,

C_m F_m G^9G C_m $\frac{\text{C}_m}{\text{E}^b}$ F_m $\frac{\text{C}_m}{\text{G}}$ $\frac{\text{C}^{\text{sus}}}{\text{G}}$ G G^+ C_m $\frac{\text{C}_m}{\text{G}}$ C_m $\frac{\text{C}_m}{\text{G}}$

Love, the high - est pleas - ure That hu - man hearts can know.
Love is bound - less long - ing, An all - con - sum - ing fire.
Thirst - ing for the heav - en Of all that love can be.

C_m A^b B^b9B^b E^b $\frac{\text{G}^{\text{sus}}}{\text{F}}$ G^7 C_m $\frac{\text{F}_m}{\text{A}^b}$ F_mF_m^7 G^{sus} $\frac{\text{G}^{\text{sus}}}{\text{D}}$ G $\frac{\text{G}}{\text{F}}$

Hear its haunt - ing mu - sic, Tho' gen - tle as a dove,
Love is gnaw - ing hun - ger To hold that one a - lone.
Love is to - tal giv - ing By joy - ful, eag - er choice,

$\frac{\text{C}_m}{\text{E}^b}$ C_m F_m^7 G_m^7 C_m C_m $\frac{\text{C}_m}{\text{E}^b}$ F_m $\frac{\text{C}_m}{\text{G}}$ $\frac{\text{C}^{\text{sus}}}{\text{G}}$ G G^+ C_m $\frac{\text{C}_m}{\text{G}}$ C_m

Fill - ing all cre - a - tion, For God Him - self is love.
With that burn - ing hun - ger God yearns for all His own.
Seek - ing, wait - ing, long - ing, And lis - t'ning for that voice.

WORDS & MUSIC: Ken Bible

SONG OF SOLOMON
6.6.6.6.D.

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Ephesians 6:1-9

(NASB)

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.

And masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.

Parenting

Without God's help, the demands of parenting could overwhelm us. At times being a parent requires more wisdom and patience than we have to give. But remember:

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness. (2 Peter 1:3, NIV)

As a parent, be confident in God's gifts to you.

God offers us His wisdom. Here's a promise that every parent should write on their bathroom mirror and engrave on their heart:

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously without finding fault, and it will be given to him. (James 1:5, NIV)

God gives us His Spirit. We have the presence, the love, the inner strength, the unshakable peace of God Himself. Just trust Him.

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23, NIV)

God is the Father of each and every one of us. He is your Father, and He is the Father of your children. The wisdom, the love, the strength, and the ultimate responsibility are all His. You are only His steward for awhile.

Realize that of all His names and titles, God cherishes "Father" the most. "Father" is what He wants us to call Him. And in His love for you, He has graciously given you a part in His most treasured role: parenting new human lives, lives that will last forever. Parent your children in His love, His strength, and His wisdom. Parent them in simple, daily confidence in God, not yourself.

He is always, always with you — just remember to depend on Him.

Hymn recording: [A Father's Prayer](#)

A Father's Prayer

TUNE: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (W ZLOBIE LEZY)
Psalm 103:8-14; Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:21

♩ = 63

G $\frac{D7}{A}$ $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{Dsus}{A}$ G D $\frac{Dsus}{E}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ D $\frac{Bm}{D}$ C $\frac{G}{B}$ C $\frac{Bm}{D}$ D7 G^{sus} G $\frac{D7}{A}$

1. Lov-ing Fa - ther, Pa-tient Fa - ther, Make this fa - ther more like You. You are
 2. Lov-ing Fa - ther, Ho - ly Fa - ther, May I show Your ten - der heart, Deep-ly

$\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{Dsus}{A}$ G D $\frac{Dsus}{E}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ D $\frac{Bm}{D}$ C $\frac{G}{B}$ C $\frac{Bm}{D}$ D7 G $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{GM7}{B}$

kind - ness, Gen - tle kind - ness. Keep me kind in all I do. Lord, my
 car - ing, Glad-ly shar - ing All the mer - cy that You are, In Your

Cadd9 C $\frac{C}{B}$ Am Am7 Dadd9 D $\frac{D}{C}$ B $\frac{B7}{D\#}$ Em9 Em $\frac{Em}{D}$ C $\frac{Em}{C\#}$ D^{sus} D D7 $\frac{Bm}{D}$ C

chil - dren Are Your chil - dren. May they know You As I show You In my
 Spir - it, Faith-ful Spir - it, Ev - er flow - ing, Ev - er grow - ing More and

$\frac{G}{B}$ C $\frac{Bm}{D}$ D \sharp 7 Em $\frac{Bm}{D}$ C $\frac{G}{B}$ C $\frac{Bm}{D}$ D7 G

spir - it day to day, Liv - ing love from day to day.
 more, O Lord, like You, More a fa - ther just like You.

WORDS: Ken Bible
 MUSIC: Polish Carol

W ZLOBIE LEZY
 4.4.7.4.4.7.4.4.4.4.7.7.

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Ephesians 6:10-24

(NASB)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

With all power and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

But that you also may know about my circumstances, how I am doing, Tychicus, the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make everything known to you. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know about us, and that he may comfort your hearts.

Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love.

The Full Armor of God

Father, in this evil world we must struggle with evil –
 evil that threatens us from outside and tempts us from within.
Whether this evil approaches us subtly or brazenly,
 its purpose is always the same.
Jesus said it always comes
 to steal and kill and destroy. (John 10:10, NASB)

When Jesus came into this world,
He came armed with the Spirit of God:

*The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him,
The spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The spirit of counsel and strength,
The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.*

*Righteousness will be the belt about His loins,
And faithfulness the belt about His waist.* (Isaiah 11:3, 5, NASB)

This same Spirit arms us as well.

*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but
against the rulers, against the powers,
against the world forces of this darkness,
against the spiritual forces of wickedness in heavenly places.*
(Ephesians 6:12, NASB)

Though Jesus was as human as we are,
He overcame evil in this world completely, and
 He arms us to overcome it completely as well.
He urges us to be strong in Him and in His power,
 not our own.
We must put on the full armor He has provided.

Put on the belt of truth.
Since we are children of Almighty God,
 truth and reality are on our side, not Satan's.
Thus His primary weapon is deceit.
Protect yourself with the truth.
Prepare yourself for battle with the truth.
Know the truth, speak the truth, and live the truth.

Protect your vital organs with the breastplate of righteousness.
Your ultimate safety in this war is being on God's side.
A mind, heart, and lifestyle that aren't right with Him
leave us vulnerable to the attack of evil.

Strap your feet with the gospel of peace.
How can we march forward to do God's work over rough, uneven ground?
We are prepared and protected by the gospel of Jesus Christ,
the good news of peace in Him.
That wonderful message we bring to others
also keeps us steady.

All the above are static pieces of armor,
fixed to protect various parts of our body.
But make sure you have the shield of faith.
You will need to wield it, to raise it against various
fears, problems, and concerns that Satan will sling your way.
When a concern arises, raise the shield of faith:
"Lord, we are concerned about this need.
We bring it to You and trust You to help us with it."

How do we protect the most vital part of our bodies, our head?
That is where our thoughts originate, and
the head guides the rest of the body.
So put on the helmet of salvation.
It protects us with the confidence that
God's salvation has rescued us completely
from sin, evil, and death.
Thus the helmet of salvation is not only protective,
but it is also a decorative helmet of victory.
It reminds us and shows the world that
the battle has already been won.

Finally, we also protect ourselves with
the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.
God has already proclaimed our final victory!
All who believe are safe in Him, and
the war against evil will soon be over and won.

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
(1 Corinthians 15:57, NASB)

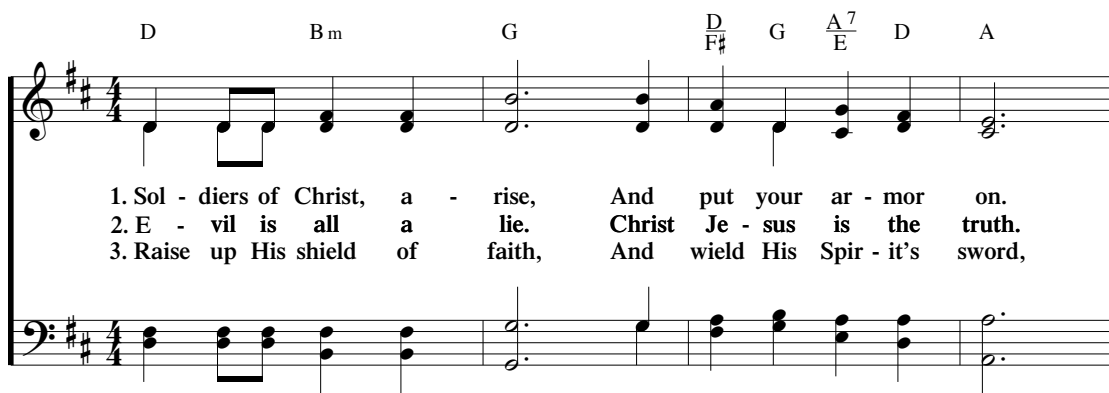
Hymn recording: [Soldiers of Christ, Arise](#)

Soldiers of Christ, Arise

TUNE: Crown Him with Many Crowns (DIADEMATA)
Ephesians 6:10-17

♩ = 96

D Bm G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{A^7}{E}$ D A



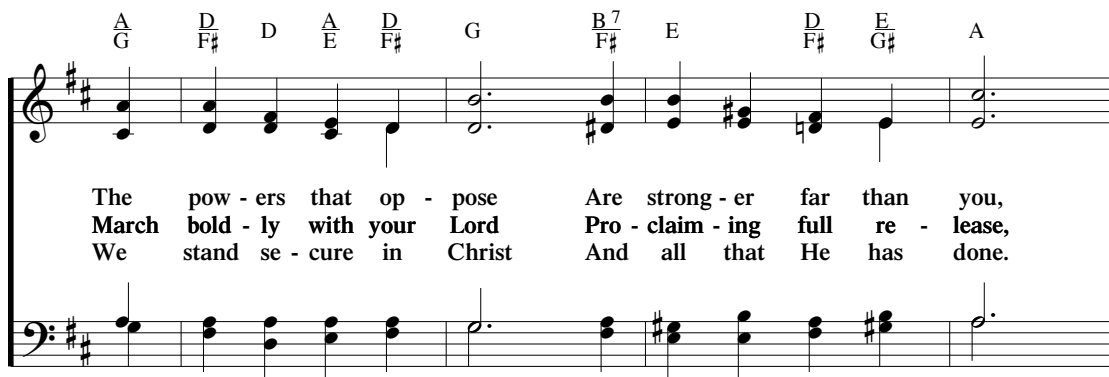
1. Sol - diers of Christ, a - rise, And put your ar - mor on.
2. E - vil is all a lie. Christ Je - sus is the truth.
3. Raise up His shield of faith, And wield His Spir - it's sword,

A D $\frac{A}{C\#}$ Bm D E $\frac{E}{D}$ $\frac{A}{C\#}$ $\frac{E^7}{B}$ A D E^7_{sus} E^7 A



Be strong in all your God pro - vides Thro' His e - ter - nal Son.
His righ - teous - ness pro - tects our hearts From sin and all its fruit.
For when He speaks, all worlds o - bey Their ho - ly, sov - 'reign Lord.

$\frac{A}{G}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ D $\frac{A}{E}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{B^7}{F\#}$ E $\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{E}{G\#}$ A



The pow - ers that op - pose Are strong - er far than you,
March bold - ly with your Lord Pro - claim - ing full re - lease,
We stand se - cure in Christ And all that He has done.

WORDS: Ken Bible and Charles Wesley
MUSIC: George J. Elvey

DIADEMATA
S.M.D.

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A G D F# G D F# Em7 A D D F# G D A sus A A7 D

But bold - ly trust in Je - sus Christ And prove what He can do.
 En - fold - ed in His glo - rious news Of life and love and peace.
 We fight to share a vic - to - ry In Christ al - read - y won.