



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 21, 2024

Preparation for Worship

*O God, full of compassion,
I commit and commend myself to you,
in whom I am, and live, and know.
Be the goal of my pilgrimage,
and my rest by the way.
Let my soul take refuge
from the crowding turmoil of worldly thought
beneath the shadow of your wings.
Let my heart, this sea of restless waves,
find peace in you, O God. Amen.*

— Augustine of Hippo

Voluntary

Praeludium in C Major
BuxWV 138

Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Greeting

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Introit

Awake, My Heart

Jane Marshall
(1924-2019)

Awake, my heart, and render
To God thy sure defender,
Thy Maker, thy preserver,
A song of love and fervor.

Confirm my deeds and guide me;
My day, with thee beside me,
Beginning, middle, ending,
Will all be upward tending.

— Words by Paulus Gerhardt (1647), translated by Winfred Douglas

✦ Opening Sentences

We proclaim the message of the cross:
this is the wisdom and power of God.

For God alone my soul waits in silence.
Steadfast love belongs to the Lord.

Jesus said: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.
May the word of God be fulfilled among us.

✦ Hymn 14 ([see page 9](#))

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

✦ Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God,
you call us to proclaim the gospel,
but we remain silent in the presence of evil.
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,
but we are content to live in separation.
You call us to seek the good of all,
but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.
You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,
but we sit idly by,
endangering the lives of people far and near.

Forgive us, O Lord.
Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,
and give us the courage and strength
to be reconciled to others;
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

silent prayer

Holy One, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

Believe the Good News. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

✦ Response (*sung twice*)

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Jacques Berthier, © 1979, 1988, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

✠ The Peace

Peace be with you. **Peace be with all.**

Conversation with Children

Infants - Age 4 may go to the Nursery in Room 106.

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:14-20

N.T. pg. 35

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Anthem

Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

Richard Farrant
(1530-1580)

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake,
Lay not our sins to our charge,
But forgive that is past,
And give us grace to amend our sinful lives;
To decline from sin, and incline to virtue,
That we may walk in a perfect heart
Before thee now and evermore.

— Words by Henry Bull (*Christian Prayers*, 1568)

Sermon

For People

Omar Rouchon

silence and stillness

✠ Hymn 170 [\(see page 10\)](#)

You Walk along Our Shoreline

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

✠ Affirmation of Faith

Philippians 2:5-11

Christ Jesus,
though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death —
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name.
 Thy Kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread,
 and forgive us our debts,
 as we forgive our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil;
 for Thine is the Kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth
 (from *Elijah*)

Felix Mendelssohn
 (1809–1847)

Then shall the righteous shine forth
 As the sun in their heavenly Father's realm.
 Joy on their head shall be for everlasting,
 And all sorrow and mourning shall flee away forever.

— Adapted from Matthew 13:43 and Isaiah 51:11

✦ Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We offer our gratitude for all the gifts you have given us.

**Empower us, O God, to use these gifts to uphold
 and strengthen all that you have created,
 To transform your world, work for peace, and bring wholeness to all.
 In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✦ Hymn 724 ([see page 11](#))

O Jesus, I Have Promised

ANGEL'S STORY

✦ Charge and Blessing

Please be seated in silence for the closing voluntary, or kindly depart quietly.

Closing Voluntary

Allegro maestoso e vivace
 (from the Sonata No. 2 in C Minor)

Felix Mendelssohn

SERVING TODAY

Pastors

Keatan King | Omar Rouchon | John Wurster

Liturgist

Lincoln Vahora

Musicians

St. Philip Choir | Matthew Dirst, organist and interim choir director | Thomas O'Neill, soloist

Jane Malczewskyj, conductor

FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Ruena Wood and family to thank God's amazing grace and in memory of the Rev. Dr. Stuart Wood's life and his ministry.

WORSHIP NOTES

Today's Lectionary readings:

- Jonah 3:1–5, 10 — *God sends Jonah to Ninevah; the people repent and God forgives.*
- Psalm 62:5–12 — *My soul waits in silence for God; God is my rock and salvation.*
- 1 Corinthians 7:29–31 — *The present world is passing away; let go of earthly attachments.*
- Mark 1:14–20 — *Jesus calls four fishermen: Simon, Andrew, James, and John.*

MUSIC NOTES

Today's **opening voluntary** comes from Dietrich Buxtehude, the finest North German organist of the generation preceding that of J. S. Bach. This *praeludium* opens with a rhapsodic, improvisatory section, which leads to a lively fugue on a triadic subject. Once the imitative counterpoint has run its course, the figuration of the beginning returns, providing final closure.

Jane Marshall's *Awake, My Heart*, heard at the **introit**, was a prize anthem of the American Guild of Organists in 1957. Its swinging yet sturdy melody, matched by an equally forthright organ accompaniment, gives new life to a venerable 17th-century German chorale text.

English composer and dramatist Richard Farrant served as a gentleman of the Chapel Royal (the court musical ensemble) under both Mary I and Elizabeth I of England. His surviving works show a keen sensibility for text setting and a mastery of small forms especially. Today's **anthem**, whose text comes from a contemporaneous book of prayers, is at once confessional and aspirational.

Felix Mendelssohn modeled his oratorio *Elijah* on comparable works from Bach and Handel from which he took inspiration. Working with librettist Julius Schubring, he produced a large-scale work for soloists, chorus, and orchestra on the story of Elijah, as related mostly in the Book of Kings. A tenor solo from late in that oratorio, which serves as this morning's **offertory**, celebrates the title character's prophetic work with a few well-chosen words from Matthew and Isaiah.

Mendelssohn composed his six organ sonatas in 1844 on commission for an English publisher. A gifted organist, he enjoyed considerable success with multiple recital tours to Britain, where he played his own and Bach's music to audiences unaccustomed to the German organ repertoire. The second sonata comprises four movements, from which we sample just the third movement as this morning's **closing voluntary**. Like several other movements in this collection, this C-major Allegro features strong, tuneful gestures and an athletic pedal line especially.

—Matthew Dirst

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover art by Diana Weiss.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES START AT 9:45 A.M. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

GODLY PLAY—Ages 3—Kindergarten—Room 104

ELEMENTARY—Grades 1-5—Room 105

YOUTH—Grades 6-12—Room 205

FAITH & LIFE—Room 200—An adult class exploring how what we believe informs how we live. There are no materials required and no preparation is needed.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY—Room 204—We resume our study of the Kingdom of Judah at 2 Kings 18 with the story of King Hezekiah in Dr. Robert Alter's *Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets* (2013). Join us from **9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.** to deepen our understanding of God's faithfulness to God's people from Dr. Alter's translation and commentary on the Biblical Hebrew. All are welcome.

CHURCH & SOCIETY—Room 201—Join us from **9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.** with presentations in person and by Zoom. **Jan. 28**—Current Issues of Concern for Children's Health in Texas - Presented by Dr. Julieana Nichols - Associate Director, Academic General Pediatrics Fellowship Program Baylor College of Medicine, Associate Professor Pediatrics-Academic General, Baylor College of Medicine. Email Mickey Meyers if you would like to join any of the classes:

churchsociety_stphilip@comcast.net.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL—We will have Children's Chapel the second and fourth Sundays after *Conversation with Children*. In the Children's Chapel, our young disciples learn the whos, whats, wheres, whens and whys of worship, while praying, singing, and hearing God's word at an age-appropriate level. Children return to join the congregation in the first few pews on the lectern side of the church for the last hymn.

ST. PHILIP DURING THE WEEK

LAMBETH STUDY—Keatan King leads young adults in study every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. It is

a time of study, reflection, and prayer. If you would like more details, email Keatan King at:

keatan@saintphilip.net.

SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDY GROUP—This group meets on first Monday nights, 7-8 p.m., by zoom to discuss social justice issues of our day. The next meeting on Monday, **Feb. 5** will begin a study/discussion of "Christian nationalism." Interested persons can contact Sara Jean Jackson (sjj10223@gmail.com) to be added to our zoom mailing list.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY—Wednesday Bible study with John Wurster meets weekly at 9:30 a.m., and is a hybrid format with an in-person option in the Office Conference Room and also a Zoom option. To get on the list for the Zoom links, send a note to john@saintphilip.net. Bible novices, Bible experts, and everyone in between is welcome!

WOMEN'S MONTHLY BOOK CLUB—This self-led, interactive group produces lively discussions and wonderful fellowship. The next meeting is **Feb. 8** at 7:00 p.m. and we will discuss *Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved* by Kate Bowler. So watch your email for details of the next meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nina Lambright at: nnl@lambrightlaw.com.

PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP—Men of all ages are welcome to participate in this self-led group. The Men's Weekly Fellowship meets each Friday in person in the office Conference Room and via Zoom at 11:45 a.m. We are studying *They Walked With God* by Max Lucado. The book talks about 40 people in the Bible and how God used them. It lets us know that he has a place for us too. If you would like to join them please contact Gary Gardner at ggardne148@aol.com.

Save the Date

*Duerr
Lecture
Series*



When the Fullness of History Inspires & Infuriates Us:

Settler Colonialism, Slavery & Christianity
in the United States

February 25, 26 & 27 | 2024

Dr. William Yoo

Associate Professor of American Religious and Cultural History
at Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT ALL ARE WELCOME! BRING A FRIEND!

February 16-18, 2024
Fairfield Inn & Suites, 11080 Katy Freeway
Led by Keatan King

The Greening Power of God and Hildegard of Bingen

Hildegard of Bingen was a visionary leader of extraordinary creative power. German Benedictine Abbess, healer, artist, musician, writer, spiritual director, botanist, poet, and more, Hildegard is one of the most significant women of Christian history. One of her great gifts was insight into *viriditas*, or the greening power of God, the life force at the heart of everything alive in all of creation. This central creative principle was key for Hildegard in sustaining her soul and her work.

As we begin the season of Lent and recall Jesus' time in the desert, we tend to think of the wilderness as a sparse, barren place. Join women of St. Philip in remembering that the desert has another side and, in the words of the prophet Isaiah, "the wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing." This abundant blossoming is *viriditas*. We will contemplate Hildegard's wisdom for living a life that is fruitful and green and overflowing with verdancy as we trust that God is indeed making all things new, or rather, "greening" all things new.

REGISTRATION online at saintphilip.net or in the Gathering Area TODAY or January 28.

Deadline to register is FEBRUARY 1

Cost

- One of two sharing a room with 2 queen beds for 2 nights - \$225
- Single room with 1 king bed for 2 nights - \$345
 - Meals included if you are staying at the hotel both nights are 2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch
- Single room for 1 night - \$225 - Friday Night Only
 - Friday night only includes Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast and lunch.
- Single room for 1 night - \$225 - Saturday Night Only
 - Saturday night only includes Saturday lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast.
- Saturday Daytime Only - \$105
 - Saturday Daytime Only registration includes lunch and dinner.
- Lunch & Dinner only - Friday Dinner; Saturday Lunch & Dinner - \$120

If you have questions, contact Lee Ardell at leeardell@gmail.com or 713-256-3818.

If you have trouble with registration, call the church office at 713-622-4807 and ask for Lorrie Castle or email her at lorrie@saintphilip.net.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN – All women of the church are invited to join any of the meetings of Presbyterian Women. If you are not a member of a circle, you are welcome to participate; to be directed to a group leader please email welcome@saintphilip.net.

Monday Morning Saints – 2nd Mon. of each month @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Circle – 3rd Sun. of each month @ 12:30 p.m.

Thursday Evening Circle – 1st Thurs. of each month @ 7:00 p.m.

IN OUR PRAYERS

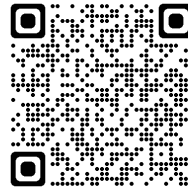
St. Philippians and their families – Stephen Paine; Mary Herlitz; Helen Deleon; Jan Ostendorf; Dick Nunn; Mark Takayama; Ben Dees; Joe Harwood; Kathryn Harwood; Nancy Johnson; Beverly Baker; Eleanor Grant; Judy Nunn; Molly Boren-Whitney; Carolyn Vestal; Don Padgett; Steve Adger; Judith Crane; Arlette Keene; Mezgebe Gebray; Kelley, Grant, Christine, Samantha and Keith Taylor – family of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Alice Woodall-Chisholm – cousin of Mary McGuire; Sheila Kinsky and her children – sister of Bill Connolly; Vera Moore – mother of Chuck Johnson; Carla Burns – cousin of Sharon Webb; Robert Kirtley – father of Amanda Kirtley; Susan Everhart – niece of Nancy Everhart Johnson; Ann Perenyi – mother of Lad Perenyi; and Ann Perkins Cloud – cousin of Stephen Paine.

Homebound – Elizabeth Arp; John Bobbitt; Joan Boelens; Edith Patterson; Joyce Randolph; George and Lorraine Scott; Mary Sinderson; and Sondra Sullivan.

Friends of St. Philippians – Stephen Wedemeyer and Ron Landers – friends of Bill and Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor, Claude Bowden – friend of Peg Palisin and Gary Gardner; Kenneth and Donna Benton – friends of William Rower; Magdalena Rustomji – friend of Mickey & Ken Meyers; Caitlan Prescott – friend of Mary McGuire; Mary Watters – friend of Jacqueline Hamilton Taylor; Tom Barnett – friend of Robin and Gary Willis; Joyce Freudenberg and Annie & Sidney Roach – friends of Stephen Paine; Jacqueline Boyd – friend of Kate Burkart; Betsy Shear Lewis – friend of Laney Miller; and Shirley Stubblefield – friend of Barbara Runge.

If you have a pastoral care need or a prayer request you would like to share, please email:

deacons@saintphilip.net



Welcome to Worship at St. Philip

Please register your attendance by scanning the QR code or by visiting the Guest Book tab at saintphilip.net.

AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST,
we seek to be an inclusive,
grace-filled community,
engaging the world with open minds,
willing hands and generous hearts.

WE LONG
for deeper faith,
vibrant hope
and boundless love
for everyone, every day, everywhere.

Thank you for joining us today! We hope that you find our worship together to be joyous, meaningful, and thought-provoking. **Children of all ages** are welcome to worship with their families. Activity bags containing worship aids for children are available in the narthex on the way into the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available throughout the morning from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Infants to age 4 are invited to our Nursery which is staffed by professional childcare providers. Please find our Nursery in Room 106 of the Education Building along the Sunday School Classroom hallway on the first floor. An usher or a greeter will be happy to direct you there.

A Hearing Loop is installed within the sanctuary. If you have a hearing aid equipped with a telecoil, please activate your "T switch" to hear the worship service most clearly. If you need assistance with hearing the service clearly and do not have a t-coil equipped hearing aid, please ask an usher for wireless headphones. **LARGE PRINT COPIES OF TODAY'S HYMNS ARE IN THE NARTHEX.**

Connect with St. Philip through saintphilip.net and our social media. To join our e-mail list for regular news updates, send a note to lorrie@saintphilip.net.

If you are interested in joining St. Philip Presbyterian Church by profession of faith, by reaffirming your faith, or by transferring your membership, please speak with one of the ministers today or call the church office during the week. **The Session meets the third Sunday of each month after the 11:00 worship service in Room 100 for the purpose of receiving new members.**

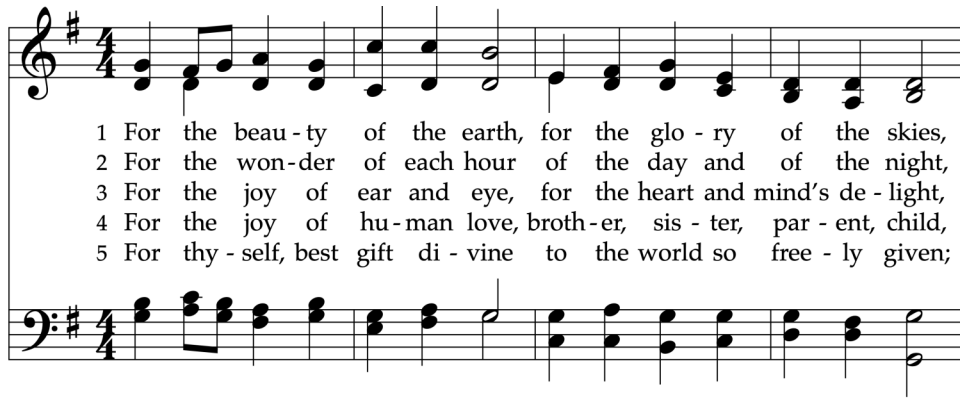
Worship with us, whenever, wherever. Our 11:00 a.m. Sunday service is live-streamed at saintphilip.net. We also live-stream a midweek prayer on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. Services can be viewed live or later in our video archives.

Contributions, pledge payments, communion gifts and other donations to support the Church can be made anytime through our website, text "SPPC" to 73256 and follow the prompts, or sent to the Church Office at 4807 San Felipe, Houston, TX 77056.

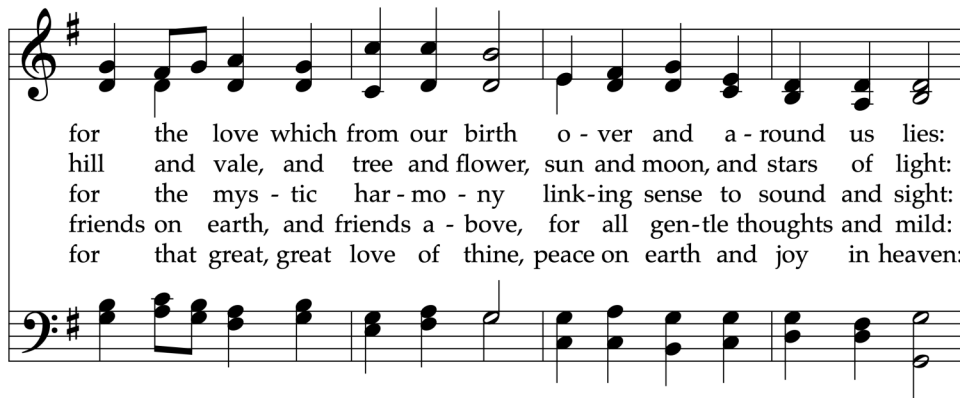
Hymn 14

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

TEXT: Follitt Sandford Pierpoint, 1864, alt.

MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906


DIX
7.7.7.7.7.7

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Hymn 170

You Walk along our Shoreline


WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN




1 You walk a - long our shore-line where land meets un-known sea.
 2 You call us, Christ, to gath - er the peo - ple of the earth.
 3 We cast our net, O Je - sus; we cry the king-dom's name;



We hear your voice of pow - er, "Now come and fol - low me.
 We can - not fish for on - ly those lives we think have worth.
 we work for love and jus - tice; we learn to hope through pain.



And if you still will fol-low through storm and wave and shoal,
 We spread your net of gos - pel a - cross the wa - ter's face,
 You call us, Lord, to gath - er God's daugh-ters and God's sons,



then I will make you fish - ers but of the hu - man soul."
 our boat a com - mon shel - ter for all found by your grace.
 to let your judg - ment heal us so that all may be one.

Based on Jesus' calling of the disciples (Matthew 4:18-22/Mark 1:16-20/Luke 5:4-11), this hymn notes that their mode of fishing involved nets requiring the participation of more than one person. Likewise, in our work of love and justice we are called to bear witness in community.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1984
 MUSIC: Johann Steurlein, 1575
 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN
 7.6.7.6.D

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1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;
 2 O let me feel thee near me! The world is ev - er near:
 3 O let me hear thee speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
 4 O Je - sus, thou hast prom - ised to all who fol - low thee

be thou for - ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;
 I see the sights that daz - zle; the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will;
 that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if thou art by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if thou wilt be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, draw thou near - er and shield my soul from sin.
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard - ian of my soul.
 O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.

Written to highlight the promises made by the author's daughter and two sons at their confirmation, this text equally well recalls the promises of discipleship made in Baptism and in the Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant. The tune was written for a text now unused.

TEXT: John Ernest Bode, 1866, alt.
 MUSIC: Arthur Henry Mann, 1881

ANGEL'S STORY
 7.6.7.6.D
 (alternate tune: NYLAND, 725)

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