

Hymn No. 610 v. 1,2,3,5 – “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer’s praise, the glories
of my God and King, the triumphs
of God’s grace!

2 The name of Jesus charms our fears,
And bids our sorrows cease, sings music
In the sinner’s ears, brings life, and health,
and peace.

3 Christ speaks, and listening to his voice
new life the dead receive; the mournful
waken to rejoice; the poor in heart
believe.

5 To God all glory, praise, and love be now
and ever given by saints below and saints
above, the church in earth and heaven.

Hymn No. 774 v. 1,2,3 & 4 – “There Is Now a New Creation”

1 There is now a new creation
through the grace of Jesus Christ,
peace and reconciliation
with the God of endless life.

2 Call the lost and found together;
tell the news to everyone:
now the past is gone forever
and a new life has begun.

3 Wrap the prodigal in welcome;
run to greet the wayward child.
All is finished and forgiven;
let us now be reconciled.

4 Come and join the celebration;
come and join this happy feast;
Jesus makes an invitation
to the greatest and the least.

Hymn No.605 “Praise to God the Father”

Praise to God the Father;
praise to God the Son;
praise to God the Spirit:
praise to the Three-in-One.
Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.
Praise to God Almighty;
praise to the Holy One.
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!

Hymn No. 822 1,2&4 – “When We Are Living”

1 When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,
and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.
Both in our living and in our dying,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

2 Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

4 Across this wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind,
but when we help them, or when we feed
them,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

Galatians 2:15-21

We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

Luke 7:20-30

When the men had come to him, they said, ‘John the Baptist has sent us to you to ask, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?”’ Jesus had just then cured many people of diseases, plagues, and evil spirits, and had given sight to many who were blind. And he answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.’

When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: ‘What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who put on fine clothing and live in luxury are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.”

I tell you, among those born of women no one is greater than John; yet the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.’ (And all the people who heard this, including the tax-collectors, acknowledged the justice of God, because they had been baptized with John's baptism. But by refusing to be baptized by him, the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God's purpose for themselves.)