

1. Here in this place, new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,
see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame;

call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong;

give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew, be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat
the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are
holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some
heaven, light years away,
but here in this place the new light is shining, now is
the Kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and
make us your own;
gather us in all people together, fire of love in our flesh
and our bone.

Spirit of God

TFWS #2117

1. Spirit of God, bright Wind, breath that bids life begin,
glow as you always do; create us anew.

Give us the breath to sing, lifted on soaring wing,
held in your hands, born on your wings.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, Come! Alleluia! Come, Spirit,
Come!

2. Spirit of God, bright Dove, grant us your peace and
love,

healing upon your wings for all living things.

For when we live your peace, captives will find release,
held in your hands, born on your wings.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, Come! Alleluia! Come, Spirit,
Come!

3. Spirit of God, bright Hands, even in far off lands
you hold all the human race in one warm embrace.

No matter where we go, you hold us together so,
held in your hands, born on your wings.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, Come! Alleluia! Come, Spirit,
Come!

4. Spirit of God, bright Flame, send us in your holy name,

the power to heal, to share your love everywhere.

We cannot fail or fall, or know defeat at all,

held in your hands, born on your wings.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, Come! Alleluia! Come, Spirit, Come!

5. Spirit of God, in all, we gladly hear your call,

the life in our hands that sings, the power of your wings.

Born of your grace we rise, love shining in our eyes, held in your hands, born on your wings.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, Come! Alleluia! Come, Spirit, Come!

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

1 When the storms of life are raging,
stand by me; (stand by me)
when the storms of life are raging,
stand by me. (stand by me)
When the world is tossing me
like a ship upon the sea,
thou who rulest wind and water,
stand by me. (stand by me)

2 In the midst of tribulation,
stand by me; (stand by me)
in the midst of tribulation,
stand by me. (stand by me)
When the hosts of hell assail,
and my strength begins to fail,
thou who never lost a battle,
stand by me. (stand by me)

3 In the midst of faults and failures,
stand by me; (stand by me)
in the midst of faults and failures,
stand by me. (stand by me)
When I've done the best I can,
and my friends misunderstand,

thou who knowest all about me,
stand by me. (stand by me)

4 In the midst of persecution,
stand by me; (stand by me)
in the midst of persecution,
stand by me. (stand by me)

When my foes in war array
undertake to stop my way,
thou who rescued Paul and Silas,
stand by me. (stand by me)

5 When I'm growing old and feeble,
stand by me; (stand by me)
when I'm growing old and feeble,
stand by me. (stand by me)

When my life becomes a burden,
and I'm nearing chilly Jordan,
O thou Lily of the Valley,
stand by me. (stand by me)

Isaiah 43:1-7 Restoration and Protection Promised

But now thus says the LORD,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the LORD your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.

I give Egypt as your ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight,

and honoured, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,

nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you;

I will bring your offspring from the east,

and from the west I will gather you;

I will say to the north, 'Give them up',

and to the south, 'Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away

and my daughters from the end of the earth—

everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.'

Luke 3:15-17

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Luke 3:21-22 The Baptism of Jesus

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

1. God of grace and God of glory, on the people pour
thy power;

crown thine ancient church's story, bring her bud to
glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of
this hour,

for the facing of this hour.

2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail
his ways!

Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our
hearts to work and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of
these days,

for the living of these days.

3. Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride
to thy control;

shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and
poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4. Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.