

Wings of Dawn

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The Lord knows us better than our closest friend. He knows what we do and why we do it. He knows our motivations, what we think and why we think it even before it enters our own mind. Regardless of place or circumstance, God is there surrounding us; His hand leads us and holds us safe in His love. Even in the depths of despair, loneliness or sin, He is able to turn darkness to light. He is able to search the depths of our heart and lead us in the everlasting way.

Psalm 139

Your Treasure

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If we stopped after a hard and stressful day of work and considered creation we may be caused to envy that the life of a bird seems so carefree. They don't work or stress, yet, God seems to have provided them with enough to live and to live life joyfully. So if God cares for them, how much more will He care for us his dear children? The effort and worry that goes into accumulating wealth becomes vanity as it cannot buy us anything of lasting worth. But the words of God – they will never fail. His kingdom and His righteousness are the only lasting treasure.

Luke 12:24-34; Ephesians 3:19

A New Song

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Our mistakes and sins are difficult to leave behind. We confess our sin and ask for forgiveness but our path to recovery is often slow. We remain stuck in the pit we have fallen into, but we continue to call with hope; waiting for God to lift us out, to wash us and make us clean. There is nothing like the joy we experience when this happens. When we see someone buried in the waters of baptism we rejoice with them as they humbly declare to all that they have turned aside from the lies of proud humanity and put their trust in the Lord. It rejuvenates us and puts a new song in our mouth; a song of praise to our God.

Psalm 40

Psalm 20

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Dear friend, your path in life will bring you challenges and opportunities. My prayer for you is that the Lord will answer you when you call and send you help whenever you are in trouble. May He hear your prayers, fulfil all your plans and grant you your heart's desire. Many rely on their own strength to overcome but we will trust in the Lord. Together with our God we will remain standing when all others have fallen. When the Lord gives you the victory, I will rejoice with you. We will shout for joy together and boast of the mighty power of our God.

Psalm 20

Wilderness

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The world is fading away. Creation is groaning in pain; crying out to the heavens for the return of Jesus Christ. Hope is replaced by pain and fear in the hearts of men and women, whose spirits cry out for refuge amidst war and terror. Where is our saviour? We need him desperately. Why does he delay? We need him now. Yet we know that there will come a time when there will be no more war or hunger. The tears of the unloved child will be wiped away. The anguished cries of all life in heaven and earth will turn to cries of joy, as a stream of life-giving water breaks from the deep, rejuvenating the earth; bringing quietness and assurance to the world for ever.

Isaiah 35:6; Romans 8:22; Philippians 2:15; John 14:3; Revelation 21:4

Morning

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There are times in life when we are required to make big decisions that weigh heavily upon us and can cause us to feel anxious and burdened. It isn't possible to see into the future to the end result of what we hope and dream for, but we wake every morning and offer up our hopes and our dreams to God in prayer. We lay them down at His feet and wait in confident expectation of a time when we are able to look back and see that what we have heard about God's care and concern for our lives was very real and powerful. We will realise thankfully, that at every step along the way, our life and breath was held safe in His hands. All our ways belong to You.

Psalm 5:3; Job 12:10

Love never fails

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Every day Jesus ceaselessly extended himself to others. He embodied love in word and action. He showed patience and kindness, humility and self control. He loved truth and hated evil. He bore, believed, hoped and endured all things and never failed. At one point we thought and acted as children but when we fully appreciated him - the greatest of all gifts ever given to the world - we began to change. Now we are growing up and learning to walk in those ways of love. Love will never fail. Love will never cease.

1 Corinthians 13; 1 Peter 2:21





You

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No one can hide from You: and with life being so uncertain and unpredictable, why would we want to? You know the end from the beginning and give purpose and meaning to every aspect of our lives. Your righteousness does not push us away but draws us to You in wonder and awe. Your ways are holv. just and true. You sent your beloved Son so that he could feel what we feel live as we live, and suffer what we suffer in ways beyond what we have ever experienced, so that in him we might have eternal life. In gratefulness for all this, we are moved in our desire to exalt You and acknowledge You in * all our ways, so that You might direct our paths.

Jeremiah 23:24; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; 1 Corinthians 15:3



Lord of All Being

Somewhere far above the earth, God dwells in light that is unapproachable. His glory is seen in the vast expanse of stars in the sky that He has created. Just as the sun gives light, warmth and life to the earth, so God's spirit provides the same to those who seek Him His displeasure is like the night. His pleasure is like the midday sun. With power and strength. His light shines through the dark clouds of sin and reignites the flame in our hearts with truth and love. We are filled with His light and our glow glorifies His name.

Hymn 151, Christadelphian Hymn Book (2002)





Redeemer

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God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that he should die for our sins. No song is enough and no music too beautiful to express the love that this causes us to feel in response. Though he died, we know and believe that our redeemer rose again and is now at the right hand of our Father in heaven. One day in the future he will stand once more upon the earth. It is at that moment that we will fully comprehend the breadth, length, depth, and height of his love for us. Finally, we will be able to express what we feel to him in perfect and genuine completeness.

Job 19:25; John 3:16; Romans 5:8

Why

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Often the circumstances we encounter in life leave us with more questions than answers. Deep down we know that God has a purpose with us because He loves us, but somehow this doesn't stop our hearts feeling heavy or tears welling up in our eyes. We grapple with trying to understand where God is leading us. We feel like we have fallen in the darkness and don't know how to get up. Is this another ending or a new beginning? God has declared the beginning from the end. God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. A new beginning is given to us when we turn to God in prayer. We are uplifted by the joyful perspective that one day His light will rise over the horizon chasing away all darkness.

Luke 18:1; James 5:13; 2 Peter 1:19



Lord Hear Me

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The time when we need God the most is the time when we feel furthest from Him, but we can find it difficult to come to Him in honesty and openness because of the shame of knowing that we have been in the same situation many times before. God could keep a record of our sins and continue to be angry with us yet He is merciful to forgive those who fear Him and who humbly kneel to Him in repentance. He doesn't give us what we deserve but removes our sins an immeasurable distance away – as far as the east is from the west. Great is His compassion towards us! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.

Psalm 103

Evening Prayer

Just like a child sometimes needs assurance from a parent before they can go to sleep, so too we are comforted by the words of our Father. When we sleep and rise again in the light of a new morning to travel along the path that He has set before us, we are able to be guided by Him in all that we say and do. May we grow to be like His son so that when he appears we may see his face at last and recognise each other, for we shall be like him.

Hymn 410, Christadelphian Hymn Book (2002

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