

# 2019-12-15 God the Preserver of Man



## First Hymn

### 1. Hymn. 452

Brood o'er us with Thy shelt'ring wing,  
'Neath which our spirits blend  
Like brother birds, that soar and sing,  
And on the same branch bend.  
The arrow that doth wound the dove  
Darts not from those who watch and love.

If thou the bending reed wouldst break  
By thought or word unkind,  
Pray that his spirit you partake,  
Who loved and healed mankind:  
Seek holy thoughts and heavenly strain,  
That make men one in love remain.

Learn, too, that wisdom's rod is given  
For faith to kiss, and know;  
That greetings glorious from high heaven,  
Whence joys supernal flow,  
Come from that Love, divinely near,  
Which chastens pride and earth-born fear,

Through God, who gave that word of might  
Which swelled creation's lay:  
"Let there be light, and there was light."  
What chased the clouds away?  
'Twas Love whose finger traced aloud  
A bow of promise on the cloud.

Thou to whose power our hope we give,  
Free us from human strife.  
Fed by Thy love divine we live,  
For Love alone is Life;  
And life most sweet, as heart to heart  
Speaks kindly when we meet and part.



## Scriptural selection

### 1. John 9:1–7 as, 14

- 1 ... as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.
- 2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?
- 3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.
- 4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.
- 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.
- 6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,
- 7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.
- 14 And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes.

### 2. John 5:18–20, 24, 26

- 18 Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.
- 19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.
- 20 For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.
- 24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.
- 26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;

### 3. James 1:16–18

- 16 Do not err, my beloved brethren.
- 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.
- 18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.



## Second and Third Hymn

### 2. Hymn. 487

Great is Your faithfulness, God, our creator,  
With You no shadow of turning we see.

You do not change, Your compassions they fail not;  
As You have been, You forever will be.

REFRAIN

Great is Your faithfulness!  
Great is Your faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see.  
All I have needed Your hand has provided.  
Great is Your faithfulness, God, unto me!

Freedom from sin and a peace so enduring,  
Your constant presence to cheer and to guide.  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Such are the blessings Your wonders provide.

REFRAIN

**3. Hymn. 329**

The heavens declare the glory  
Of Him who made all things;  
Each day repeats the story,  
Each night its tribute brings.  
To earth's remotest border  
His mighty power is known;  
In beauty, grandeur, order,  
His handiwork is shown.

His law man's pathway brightens,  
His judgments all are pure,  
His Word the thought enlightens,  
And ever shall endure.  
To heed His testimony,  
And Wisdom's way to hold,  
Is sweeter far than honey,  
And better far than gold.

In daily contemplation  
Of Thee, I take delight;  
O, let my meditation  
Lay hold of Thee aright.  
O, aid me in suppression  
Of idle thought or word;  
O, keep me from transgression,  
Redeemer, strength, and Lord.



**Rev. 1:4 Grace (to 1st ); 5 (to 2nd ), 6**

- 4 ... Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; ...
- 5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, ...
- 6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

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