


First Hymn

1. Hymn. 263

Only God can bring us gladness, / Only God can give us peace; / Joys are vain that end in sadness, /
Joy divine shall never cease. / Mid the shade of want and sorrow / Undisturbed, our hearts rejoice; /
Patient, wait the brighter morrow; / Faithful, heed the Father's voice. /

As the stars in order going, / All-harmonious, He doth move; / Heavenly calm and comfort showing, /
Comes the healing word of Love. / Who the word of wisdom heareth / Feels the Father Love within, /
Where as dawn the shadow clearth, / Love outshines the night of sin. /

So we find the true atonement, / Know in God the perfect Friend; / For in Love is our at-one-ment, /
Where all hearts in Him may blend. / Here from prisoning pain and sorrow / Have we all a sure
release, / Only God can bring us gladness, / Only God can give us peace.

 The readings, from our Pastor: The Holy Bible and the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures", by Mary Baker Eddy:

Phil. 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.

The Holy Bible

1. Ps. 32:11; 33:1, 3-5, 8-11, 18-20, 22

Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart. ...

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright. ...

Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise. For the word of the Lord is right; and all his works are done in truth. He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. ...

Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast. The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect. The counsel of the Lord standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. ...

Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. Our soul waiteth for the Lord: he is our help and our shield. ...

Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.

2. I Pet. 1:3–9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

3. Ps. 40:5, 11, 13, 16, 17

Many, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered. ...

Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O Lord: let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve me. ...

Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me: O Lord, make haste to help me. ...

Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: let such as love thy salvation say continually, The Lord be magnified. But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.

4. John 17:1–4, 6, 11, 13 2nd and

These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. ...

I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. ...

And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. ...

... and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

5. John 10:7–10

Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

6. Ps. 145:1–5, 13, 14, 16, 17, 21

I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever. Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts. I will speak of the glorious honour of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works. ...

Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations. The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down. ...

Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing. The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works. ...

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.

7. Ps. 118:24

This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

8. Zeph. 3:14, 17

¶ Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. ...

The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

9. Eph. 3:20, 21

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.



Science and Health

1. SH 15:25–26

Christians rejoice in secret beauty and bounty, hidden from the world, but known to God.

2. SH 22:11–27, 30–31; 23:1–2, 4–5, 7 The

“Work out your own salvation,” is the demand of Life and Love, for to this end God worketh with you. “Occupy till I come!” Wait for your reward, and “be not weary in well doing.” If your endeavors are beset by fearful odds, and you receive no present reward, go not back to error, nor become a sluggard in the race.

Wait for
reward

When the smoke of battle clears away, you will discern the good you have done, and receive according to your deserving. Love is not hasty to deliver us from temptation, for Love means that we shall be tried and purified.

Final deliverance from error, whereby we rejoice in immortality, boundless freedom, and sinless sense, is not reached through paths of flowers nor by pinning one's faith without works to another's vicarious effort. ...

Deliverance
not vicarious

Justice requires reformation of the sinner. Mercy cancels the debt only when justice approves. ... Wisdom and Love may require many sacrifices of self to save us from sin. ... The atonement requires constant self-immolation on the sinner's part. ... The atonement is a hard problem in theology, but its scientific explanation is, that suffering is an error of sinful sense which Truth destroys, and that eventually both sin and suffering will fall at the feet of everlasting Love.

Justice and
substitution

3. SH 518:19

Love giveth to the least spiritual idea might, immortality, and goodness, which shine through all as the blossom shines through the bud. All the varied expressions of God reflect health, holiness, immortality — infinite Life, Truth, and Love.

4. SH 569:11–14

He that touches the hem of Christ's robe and masters his mortal beliefs, animality, and hate, rejoices in the proof of healing, — in a sweet and certain sense that God is Love.

5. SH 140:7–19, 20

Not materially but spiritually we know Him as divine Mind, as Life, Truth, and Love. We shall obey and adore in proportion as we apprehend the divine nature and love Him understandingly, warring no more over the corporeality, but rejoicing in the affluence of our God. Religion will then be of the heart and not of the head. Mankind will no longer be tyrannical and proscriptive from lack of love, — straining out gnats and swallowing camels.

God invisible
to the senses

We worship spiritually, only as we cease to worship materially. Spiritual devoutness is the soul of Christianity. Worshipping through the medium of matter is paganism. ... “The true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth.”

The true
worship

6. SH 265:23–12; 266:16

Who that has felt the loss of human peace has not gained stronger desires for spiritual joy? The aspiration after heavenly good comes even before we discover what belongs to wisdom and Love. The loss of earthly hopes and pleasures brightens the ascending path of many a heart. The pains of sense quickly inform us that the pleasures of sense are mortal and that joy is spiritual.

Blessings
from pain

The pains of sense are salutary, if they wrench away false pleasurable beliefs and transplant the affections from sense to Soul, where the creations of God are good, “rejoicing the heart.” Such is the sword of Science, with which Truth decapitates error, materiality giving place to man's higher individuality and destiny.

Decapitation
of error

Would existence without personal friends be to you a blank? Then the time will come when you will be solitary, left without sympathy; but this seeming vacuum is already filled with divine Love. When this hour of development comes, even if you cling to a sense of personal joys, spiritual Love will force you to accept what best promotes your growth. ... Thus He teaches mortals to lay down their fleshliness and gain spirituality. This is done through self-abnegation. Universal Love is the divine way in Christian Science.

Uses of
adversity

7. SH 28:9; 29:1–8

While respecting all that is good in the Church or out of it, one's consecration to Christ is more on the ground of demonstration than of profession. In conscience, we cannot hold to beliefs outgrown; and by understanding more of the divine Principle of the deathless Christ, we are enabled to heal the sick and to triumph over sin. ...

... Christians must take up arms against error at home and abroad. They must grapple with sin in themselves and in others, and continue this warfare until they have finished their course. If they keep the faith, they will have the crown of rejoicing.

Christian
warfare

Christian experience teaches faith in the right and disbelief in the wrong.

8. SH 342:16–24; 343:10–20

If Christianity is not scientific, and Science is not of God, then there is no invariable law, and truth becomes an accident. Shall it be denied that a system which works according to the Scriptures has

Scriptural authority?

Christianity
scientific

Christian Science awakens the sinner, reclaims the infidel, and raises from the couch of pain the helpless invalid. It speaks to the dumb the words of Truth, and they answer with rejoicing. ...

Argument of
good works

... The sick, the halt, and the blind look up to Christian Science with blessings, and Truth will not be forever hidden by unjust parody from the quickened sense of the people.

Jesus strips all disguise from error, when his teachings are fully understood. By parable and argument he explains the impossibility of good producing evil; and he also scientifically demonstrates this great fact, proving by what are wrongly called miracles, that sin, sickness, and death are beliefs — illusive errors — which he could and did destroy.

Proof from
miracles

9. SH 205:7–13

When will the error of believing that there is life in matter, and that sin, sickness, and death are creations of God, be unmasked? When will it be understood that matter has neither intelligence, life, nor sensation, and that the opposite belief is the prolific source of all suffering? God created all through Mind, and made all perfect and eternal.

Creation
perfect

10. SH 377:1

If your patient believes in taking cold, mentally convince him that matter cannot take cold, and that thought governs this liability. If grief causes suffering, convince the sufferer that affliction is often the source of joy, and that he should rejoice always in ever-present Love.

11. SH 249:6–9

Let us feel the divine energy of Spirit, bringing us into newness of life and recognizing no mortal nor material power as able to destroy. Let us rejoice that we are subject to the divine “powers that be.”

Renewed
selfhood



Second and Third Hymn

2. Hymn. 519

Lean on the sustaining infinite / And blessings will be yours. / Lean not on person, place, or thing, / Or economic laws; / But lean upon all-blessing God / Who will all needs supply / And give to all abundant good / That money cannot buy. /

Let the healing reign of Truth and Life, / The reign of Love divine, / Be now established within me / To show Soul's clear design / Of Oneness, indivisible— / Of God and me as one— / As water is to ocean wave, / As sunbeam is to sun. /

Love with a heart of tenderness / Your enemies and friends; / However hard this may appear, / This quality just mends. / For Love is God in action true, / A presence that is felt; / A healing and a saving power / That will all discord melt. /

So lean, and let, and love; / This is the balanced Way. / It's free from self-will, pressure, stress; / It welcomes in God's day. / The leaning is so gentle; / The letting is so free. / And loving is the only way / To think, and speak, and be.

3. Hymn. 10

All power is given unto our Lord, / On Him we place reliance; / With truth from out His sacred word / We bid our foes defiance. / With Him we shall prevail, / Whatever may assail; / He is our shield and

tower, / Almighty is His power; / His kingdom is forever. /

Rejoice, ye people, praise His name, / His care doth e'er surround us. / His love to error's thralldom
came, / And from its chains unbound us. / Our Lord is God alone, / No other power we own; / No
other voice we heed, / No other help we need; / His kingdom is forever. /

O then give thanks to God on high, / Who life to all is giving; / The hosts of death before Him fly, / In
Him we all are living. / Then let us know no fear, / Our King is ever near; / Our stay and fortress
strong, / Our strength, our hope, our song; / His kingdom is forever.

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