

First Hymn

1. Hymn. 176

Long hast thou stood, O church of God, / Long mid the tempest's assailing, / Founded secure on timeless rock / Rises thy light, never failing; / Shining that all may understand / What has been wrought by God's command, / O'er night and chaos prevailing. /

Let there be light, and light was there, / Clear as the Word that declared it; / Healing and peace to all it gave, / Who in humility shared it. / Ah, they were faithful, they who heard, / Steadfast their trust in God's great Word, / Steadfast the Love that prepared it. /

Let there be light, the Word shines forth, / Lo, where the new morning whitens; / O church of God, with Book unsealed, / How its page beacons and brightens. / Living stones we, each in his place, / May we be worthy such a grace, / While Truth the wide earth enlightens.

 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:

Acts 20:28 (to 4th ,)

¶ Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, ...

The Holy Bible

1. Heb. 13:8

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever.

2. Matt. 9:35

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

3. Mark 8:34–38

¶ And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

4. II Tim. 2:22–26

Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

5. Matt. 10:26–32

Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known. What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops. And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows. Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

6. Luke 9:1, 2, 6

Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. ...

And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing every where.

7. Luke 10:1, 2, 8, 9

After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come. Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. ...

And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you.

8. James 5:13–16, 19, 20

Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. ...

Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way, shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

9. Acts 20:28–32, 35

¶ Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears. And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. ...

I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

10. Mark 16:15 Go, 17, 18

... Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. ...

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

11. Matt. 10:8

Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.



Science and Health

1. SH 249:18–19

Life is, like Christ, “the same yesterday, and to-day, and forever.”

2. SH 37:25

Christians claim to be his followers, but do they follow him in the way that he commanded? Hear these imperative commands: “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect!” “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature!” “*Heal the sick!*”

3. SH 98:31–29

The way through which immortality and life are learned is not ecclesiastical but Christian, not human but divine, not physical but metaphysical, not material but scientifically spiritual. Human philosophy, ethics, and superstition afford no demonstrable divine Principle by which mortals can escape from sin; yet to escape from sin, is what the Bible demands. “Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,” says the apostle, and he straightway adds: “for it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure” (Philippians ii. 12, 13). Truth has furnished the key to the kingdom, and with this key Christian Science has opened the door of the human understanding. None may pick the lock nor enter by some other door. The ordinary teachings are material and not spiritual. Christian Science teaches only that which is spiritual and divine, and not human. Christian Science is unerring and Divine; the human sense of things errs because it is human.

Key to the kingdom

Those individuals, who adopt theosophy, spiritualism, or hypnotism, may possess natures above some others who eschew their false beliefs. Therefore my contest is not with the individual, but with the false system. I love mankind, and shall continue to labor and to endure.

The calm, strong currents of true spirituality, the manifestations of which are health, purity, and self-immolation, must deepen human experience, until the beliefs of material existence are seen to be a bald imposition, and sin, disease, and death give everlasting place to the scientific demonstration of divine Spirit and to God's spiritual, perfect man.

4. SH viii:9

Theology and physics teach that both Spirit and matter are real and good, whereas the fact is that Spirit is good and real, and matter is Spirit's opposite. The question, What is Truth, is answered by demonstration, — by healing both disease and sin; and this demonstration shows that Christian healing confers the most health and makes the best men. On this basis Christian Science will have a

fair fight. Sickness has been combated for centuries by doctors using material remedies; but the question arises, Is there less sickness because of these practitioners? A vigorous “No” is the response deducible from two connate facts, — the reputed longevity of the Antediluvians, and the rapid multiplication and increased violence of diseases since the flood.

5. SH 28:1–4

The Pharisees claimed to know and to teach the divine will, but they only hindered the success of Jesus' mission. Even many of his students stood in his way.

Help and hindrance

6. SH 60:24

An ill-attuned ear calls discord harmony, not appreciating concord. So physical sense, not discerning the true happiness of being, places it on a false basis. Science will correct the discord, and teach us life's sweeter harmonies.

Spiritual concord

7. SH 416:24–27, 30

The sick know nothing of the mental process by which they are depleted, and next to nothing of the metaphysical method by which they can be healed. ... Turn their thoughts away from their bodies to higher objects. Teach them that their being is sustained by Spirit, not by matter, and that they find health, peace, and harmony in God, divine Love.

Evil thought depletes

8. SH 445:9–21

Teach the great possibilities of man endued with divine Science. Teach the dangerous possibility of dwarfing the spiritual understanding and demonstration of Truth by sin, or by recourse to material means for healing. Teach the meekness and might of life “hid with Christ in God,” and there will be no desire for other healing methods. You render the divine law of healing obscure and void, when you weigh the human in the scale with the divine, or limit in any direction of thought the omnipresence and omnipotence of God.

Christian Science silences human will, quiets fear with Truth and Love, and illustrates the unlabored motion of the divine energy in healing the sick.

9. SH 271:26–12; 272:19–32

Those, who are willing to leave their nets or to cast them on the right side for Truth, have the opportunity now, as aforetime, to learn and to practise Christian healing. The Scriptures contain it. The spiritual import of the Word imparts this power. But, as Paul says, “How shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach, except they be sent?” If sent, how shall they preach, convert, and heal multitudes, except the people hear?

Modern evangel

The spiritual sense of truth must be gained before Truth can be understood. This sense is assimilated only as we are honest, unselfish, loving, and meek. In the soil of an “honest and good heart” the seed must be sown; else it beareth not much fruit, for the swinish element in human nature uproots it. Jesus said: “Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures.” The spiritual sense of the Scriptures brings out the scientific sense, and is the new tongue referred to in the last chapter of Mark's Gospel. ...

Spirituality of Scripture

It is the spiritualization of thought and Christianization of daily life, in contrast with the results of the ghastly farce of material existence; it is chastity and purity, in contrast with the downward tendencies and earthward gravitation of sensualism and impurity, which really attest the divine origin and operation of Christian Science. The triumphs of Christian Science are recorded in the destruction of error and evil, from which are propagated the dismal beliefs of sin,

Unspiritual contrasts

sickness, and death.

The divine Principle of the universe must interpret the universe. God is the divine Principle of all that represents Him and of all that really exists. Christian Science, as demonstrated by Jesus, alone reveals the natural, divine Principle of Science.

God the
Principle of all

10. SH 35:19–25 2nd Our

Our church is built on the divine Principle, Love. We can unite with this church only as we are new-born of Spirit, as we reach the Life which is Truth and the Truth which is Life by bringing forth the fruits of Love, — casting out error and healing the sick.

Spiritual
Eucharist

11. SH 367:17

A Christian Scientist occupies the place at this period of which Jesus spoke to his disciples, when he said: “Ye are the salt of the earth.” “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.” Let us watch, work, and pray that this salt lose not its saltness, and that this light be not hid, but radiate and glow into noontide glory.

The salt of
the earth



Second and Third Hymn

2. Hymn. 439

As a fire is meant for burning / With a bright and warming flame, / So a church is meant for healing / Giving glory to God's name. / Not to preach mere creed or custom, / But to prove God's loving care, / We join hands across the nations, / Finding neighbors everywhere. /

As a green bud in the springtime / Is a sign of life renewed, / May we grow as signs of oneness / 'Mid earth's peoples, many hued. / As a rainbow lights the heavens / When a storm is past and gone, / May our lives reflect the radiance / Of God's new and glorious dawn. /

We are learners; we are teachers; / We are pilgrims on the way. / We are bearers of the gospel, / We are children of the day. / By our gentle, loving actions / We would show that Christ is light. / With a humble, listening spirit / We would live to God's delight.

3. Hymn. 203

O Father, may we bear each hour / The flag of hope and peace unfurled, / And mirror forth Love's sacred power / To feed and bless a hungry world. / We shall not falter by the way / If we but place our trust in Thee, / Obeying gladly day by day / The living Truth that makes men free. /

Help us to know that all is well / E'en though we wander through earth's shade, / To know that all Thy children dwell / Within Love's stronghold unafraid. / Teach us to follow fearlessly / The way our gentle Master trod, / 'Twill lead us safely home to Thee, / O loving Father-Mother, God.



Music selections



Prelude: *Thy Light Shall Break Forth As the Morning*, by Peter Allen, from his album "Solitary freedom"

Postlude: *Things Hoped For*, by Peter Allen, from his album "Solitary freedom"

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