

Wed Gifts 2022 12 21

Gifts - Giving and Receiving

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Hymns

434

222

392

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434

A village humble, still,
 A guiding star above,
 A shepherd watching on a hill,
 A motherheart of love--
 A child is born of grace,
 Brings peace to all the earth,
 While angels sing their joyous praise,
 And glorify his birth.

.

The shepherds brought their faith,
 The Wisemen offered gold
 And costly frankincense and myrrh,
 Each brought his gift of old.
 What shall we give today?
 A thing of worldly worth?
 Or hearts attuned to angel songs –
 The gift of our new birth?

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Hymn 222

Hymn 222, 223

PHILLIPS BROOKS

(222)

ST. LOUIS

LEWIS H. REDNER

(223)

CHRISTMAS CAROL

H. WALFORD DAVIES

Music by permission of the Misses Horder

O little town of Bethlehem,
 How still we see thee lie;
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 The silent stars go by;
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth

The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
Where charity stands watching
And faith holds wide the door,
The dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
And Christmas comes once more.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given;
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meekness will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

Hymn 392

Hymn 392, 393

LAURA C. NOURSE

(392)

GOLDEN SHEAVES

ARTHUR S. SULLIVAN

(393)

ACH GOTT UND HERR

MELODY BY C. PETER

With love and peace and joy supreme
We hail the new appearing;
From out the darkness and the dream,
The haven of rest is nearing.

With gifts of healing in his wings
To light the Christ now guides us,
The heart that knows him burns and sings,
For endless joy betides us.

His touch the door of Life unseals
And bids us freely enter,
His word the heaven of heavens reveals
With Love its bound and center.

For God is all, and Christ the way;
Our meek and bold defender

Has cleft the night and lo, the day
Bursts forth in mighty splendor.

The Bible

1. James 1:17

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.

2. Acts 20:35

35 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.

3. Prov 17:8

8 A gift *is as* a precious stone in the eyes of him that hath it: whithersoever it turneth, it prospereth.

4. Matt 2:1, 10, 11

1 NOW when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,
10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.
11 ¶ And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

5. John 3:16

16 ¶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

6. Rom. 6:23 2nd the

23 the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

7. I Pet 4:10, 11 (to :)

10 As every man hath received the gift, *even so* minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.
11 If any man speak, *let him speak* as the oracles of God; if any man minister, *let him do it* as of the ability which God giveth:

8. Matt 23:1-3, 23

1 THEN spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples,
2 Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat:
3 All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, *that* observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.

23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier *matters* of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

9. Matt 5:23 if, 24

23 if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee;

24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

10. Luke 21:1-4

1 AND he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury.

2 And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites.

3 And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all:

4 For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.

11. John 9:1-7

1 AND 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.

12. Matt 7:7-11

7 ¶ Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?

10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?

11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children,
how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to
them that ask him?

13. Luke 12:32

32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the
kingdom.

14. I Cor 12:1, 4-11, 31 covet (to :)

1 NOW concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.
4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.
6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which
worketh all in all.
7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.
8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word
of knowledge by the same Spirit;
9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the
same Spirit;
10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another
discerning of spirits; to another *divers* kinds of tongues; to another the
interpretation of tongues:
11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every
man severally as he will.
31 covet earnestly the best gifts:

15. I Cor 15:57 thanks

57 thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus
Christ.

16. Acts 2:38 ye shall

38 ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Science & Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy

1. SH 79:31-32

Giving does not impoverish us in the
service of our Maker, neither does withholding enrich us.

2. SH 6:5-7

3 God is not separate from the wis-
6 dom He bestows. The talents He gives we
must improve.

3. SH 107:10

Through
Christian Science, religion and medicine are

12 inspired with a diviner nature and essence; fresh pinions
are given to faith and understanding, and thoughts ac-
quaint themselves intelligently with God.

4. SH 108:3-4

3 According to St. Paul, it was “the gift of the grace of
God given unto me by the effectual working of His power.”

5. SH 97:32-3

Earth has no repayment for the persecutions which
98:1 attend a new step in Christianity; but the spiritual recom-
pense of the persecuted is assured in the elevation of ex-
3 istence above mortal discord and in the gift of divine Love.

6. SH 8:10-18, 22-30

If a man, though apparently fervent and prayerful,
is impure and therefore insincere, what must be the
12 comment upon him? If he reached the
loftiness of his prayer, there would be no
occasion for comment. If we feel the aspiration, hu-
15 mility, gratitude, and love which our words express, —
this God accepts; and it is wise not to try to deceive
ourselves or others, for “there is nothing covered that
18 shall not be revealed.” If we turn away from the poor, we are
not ready to receive the reward of Him who blesses
24 the poor. We confess to having a very wicked heart
and ask that it may be laid bare before us, but do
we not already know more of this heart than we are
27 willing to have our neighbor see?

We should examine ourselves and learn what is the
affection and purpose of the heart, for in this way
30 only can we learn what we honestly are.

Aspiration
and love

Searching
the heart

7. SH 516:12-13

Love, redolent with unselfish-
ness, bathes all in beauty and light.

8. SH 112:16-22

From the infinite One in Christian Science comes one
Principle and its infinite idea, and with this infinitude
18 come spiritual rules, laws, and their demon-
stration, which, like the great Giver, are “the
same yesterday, and to-day, and forever;” for thus are
21 the divine Principle of healing and the Christ-idea charac-
terized in the epistle to the Hebrews.

Unchanging
Principle

9. SH 316:21-23

Christ illustrates that
blending with God, his divine Principle, which gives man
dominion over all the earth.

10. SH 540:26-5

And Abel, he also
27 brought of the firstlings of his flock, and of the fat thereof.

Spiritual and
material

Cain is the type of mortal and material man, conceived in sin and “shapen in iniquity;” he is not the type of Truth and Love. Material in origin and sense, he brings a material offering to God. Abel takes his offering from the firstlings of the flock. A lamb is a more animate form of existence, and more nearly resembles a mind-offering than does Cain’s fruit. Jealous of his brother’s gift, Cain seeks Abel’s life, instead of making his own gift a higher tribute to the Most High.

11. SH 579:8 (to 2nd ;)

ABEL. Watchfulness; self-offering;

12. SH 2:8-11

God is not moved by the breath of praise to do more than He has already done, nor can the infinite do less than bestow all good, since He is unchanging wisdom and Love.

Deity
unchangeable

13. SH 3:22

Are we really grateful for the good already received? Then we shall avail ourselves of the blessings we have, and thus be fitted to receive more. Gratitude is much more than a verbal expression of thanks. Action expresses more gratitude than speech.

14. SH 182:22-26

Mortals entreat the divine Mind to heal the sick, and forthwith shut out the aid of Mind by using material means, thus working against themselves and their prayers and denying man’s God-given ability to demonstrate Mind’s sacred power.

15. SH 22:11-20

“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. When the smoke of battle clears away, you will discern the good you have done, and receive according to your deserving.

Wait for reward

16. SH 58:14-16

With additional joys, benevolence should grow more diffusive.

17. SH 333:16-26 The

The advent of Jesus of Nazareth marked the first century of the Christian era, but the Christ is

18 without beginning of years or end of days.
 Throughout all generations both before and
 after the Christian era, the Christ, as the spiri-
 21 tual idea, — the reflection of God, — has come with some
 measure of power and grace to all prepared to receive
 Christ, Truth. Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and the prophets
 24 caught glorious glimpses of the Messiah, or Christ, which
 baptized these seers in the divine nature, the essence of
 Love.

The divine
 Principle and
 idea

18. SH 325:7-9

Jesus
 gave the true idea of being, which results in infinite bless-
 9 ings to mortals.

19. SH 539:27

27 The divine origin of Jesus gave him more than human
 power to expound the facts of creation, and demonstrate
 the one Mind which makes and governs man
 30 and the universe. The Science of creation,
 so conspicuous in the birth of Jesus, inspired his wisest
 and least-understood sayings, and was the basis of his
 540:1 marvellous demonstrations. Christ is the offspring of
 Spirit, and spiritual existence shows that Spirit creates
 3 neither a wicked nor a mortal man, lapsing into sin, sick-
 ness, and death.

Scientific
 offspring

20. SH 33:18

18 When the human element in him struggled with the
 divine, our great Teacher said: “Not my will, but
 Thine, be done!” — that is, Let not the flesh,
 21 but the Spirit, be represented in me. This
 is the new understanding of spiritual Love. It gives all
 for Christ, or Truth. It blesses its enemies, heals the
 24 sick, casts out error, raises the dead from trespasses
 and sins, and preaches the gospel to the poor, the meek
 in heart.

The holy
 struggle

21. SH 135:26-32

Christianity as Jesus taught it was not
 27 a creed, nor a system of ceremonies, nor a special gift
 from a ritualistic Jehovah; but it was the demonstration
 of divine Love casting out error and healing the sick,
 30 not merely in the *name* of Christ, or Truth, but in demon-
 stration of Truth, as must be the case in the cycles of
 divine light.

22. SH 570:14-18, 23

Millions of unprejudiced minds — simple seekers for
 15 Truth, weary wanderers, athirst in the desert — are wait-
 ing and watching for rest and drink. Give
 them a cup of cold water in Christ’s name,
 18 and never fear the consequences. Those ready for the blessing
 24 you impart will give thanks. The waters will be paci-

Receptive hearts

fied, and Christ will command the wave.

23. SH 436:11-12

12 Giving a cup of cold water in Christ's name, is a Christian service.

24. SH 387:27

27 The history of Christianity furnishes sublime proofs of the supporting influence and protecting power bestowed on man by his heavenly Father, omnipotent Mind, who gives man faith and understanding whereby to defend himself, not only from temptation, but from bodily suffering.

[Christian history](#)

25. SH 442:26 Jesus

Jesus said, "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." This truth is Christian Science.

26. SH 55:27

27 In the words of St. John: "He shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you *forever*." This Comforter I understand to be Divine Science.

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