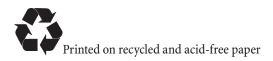
I'll Sing and Joyful Be



New Hymns of David Ashley White

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I'll Sing and Joyful Be: New Hymns of David Ashley White

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I'll Sing and Joyful Be

New Hymns of David Ashley White



dedicated to my mother, Josephine Ella White

Foreword

I met David Ashley White, a young, gifted composer and resident of Houston, Texas, in the early 1980s. At the time the Standing Commission for the Revision of the Episcopal Hymnal was busy seeking tunes for possible inclusion in the *The Hymnal 1982*. I was immediately taken by David's skills as a sensitive composer of integrity, matched by his delightful personality. Only one of his tunes, Palmer Church, was chosen at the time. But in 1997 three others were selected for inclusion in *Wonder, Love and Praise*, the first supplement to *The Hymnal 1982*.

David's newer settings continue to profoundly support and amplify the meaning of the texts with which they are matched and are eminently suited for congregational singing. Therefore, they are being accepted more and more for inclusion in denominational hymnals and hymnal supplements.

Several tunes in this new collection, set to texts already associated with beloved tunes, offer an expanded, fresh, and exciting vision of their meaning. Congregations wedded to the "old and familiar" may reject these settings at first, but because of David's skills as a composer, their repeated use will assure their acceptance. Further, I feel sure these tunes, as well as others in the collection, will prove to be suitable for editors and hymnal committees seeking tunes for the new hymnals and supplements they are creating.

In addition, David's "Introduction" and "Background on Tune Names," which are included in this new collection, will expand the user's understanding of the book's content. Because of these tunes' fresh and varied styles of composition (some using handbells or including descants), I also do not hesitate to recommend them to church musicians as a valuable resource as anthems.

Finally, one must applaud and say "thank you" to the publisher for his vision in offering this rich resource of hymn texts with tunes by David Ashley White!

Raymond F. Glover Editor, *The Hymnal 1982; The Hymnal 1982 Companion* July, 2014

Background on Tune Names

- ALKEK—composed in memory of Margaret M. Alkek, who with her daughter, Margaret Alkek Williams, endowed the director's chair in the Moores School of Music, University of Houston
- APPLETON CHAPEL—name of the front part of Harvard's Memorial Church where this hymn was first sung under the direction of organist and composer, Carson Cooman
- BETHANY—named for Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Houston, which commissioned this hymn to celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2007
- BISHOP RICHARDSON—commissioned by Nell Richardson in memory of her late father-in-law, Milton Richardson, Fifth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas (1965–1980). The Newton text was Bishop Richardson's favorite. In the 1970s, Bishop Richardson confirmed the composer into the Episcopal Church at Palmer Church.
- Bred dina vida vingar—Swedish folk tune; arrangement commissioned by Selah Publishing Co. for inclusion in *Selah Songs* of *Rejoicing*
- Brewer—named for Robert Brewer, friend of the composer and for many years, a leading Houston musician
- CASTER OF ST. BARNABAS—named for the composer's friend, John Caster, a Texan, who is an Anglican priest assigned to St. Barnabus Church, Tunbridge Wells, England
- COURTNEY—named for Courtney Daniell Knapp, in celebration of her work as co-director of the choirs at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church, Houston
- David's HARP—taken from the text, "There David stands with harp in hand..."
- FIRST CONGREGATIONAL, HOUSTON—commissioned in 2005 by First Congregational Church, Houston, in celebration of its 50th anniversary
- GALLOWAY TAM—Scottish folk melody; arrangement commissioned by Selah Publishing Co. for inclusion in *Selah Songs* of *Rejoicing*
- GIBBONS—named for the great English composer, Orlando Gibbons. A phrase of his Song 1 is quoted in measures 7–10.

- GIFT OF PEACE—taken from the Vajda text, "sing gift of peace." The setting was composed for the choir of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for Christmas 2012.
- Helen—named in honor of Helen Shaffer, friend of the composer and longtime supporter of the Moores School of Music
- KNAPP—to honor Brady Knapp and Courtney Daniell Knapp, for their many years as co-directors of music at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church, Houston
- MARYVILLE COLLEGE—named for the college in Tennessee that hosted the 1994 conference of The Hymn Society; the tune was composed in White's hotel room specifically for Carl P. Daw's hymn text, "How shallow former shadows seem."
- Montgomery Castle—birthplace of the great English poet and priest, George Herbert
- Nashua—street on which the composer lives Nicholas—the father of Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, Diocese of Galveston-Houston. The composer's original intent was to name the tune Dinardo, after the cardinal, but Cardinal DiNardo preferred it to honor his father.
- PALMER CHURCH—Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church, Houston, where the composer worships
- ST. Andrew's in the Heights—commissioned in 2010 by this Episcopal parish in the Historic Houston Heights, to celebrate its centennial
- TAD OLIN—composed for the baptism of Tad Olin Hruska, son of the composer's friends, Rusty and Rame Hruska, Houston architects
- THOMAS—for Tom Crow, professor and church musician, who commissioned the hymn tune
- VERTUE—name of George Herbert's poem Wexford Carol—Irish folk melody; arrangement commissioned by Selah Publishing Co. for inclusion in *Selah Songs of Rejoicing*.
- Wonder of Wonders—opening words of Brian Wren's hymn text; composed at the request of Houston church musician, Meg Flowers, for the baptism of her twin grandsons.

Introduction

Composing hymns has long been a passion of mine, going back to 1981. At the urging of Meg Flowers, musician at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church, Houston, and with a stack of approved hymn texts for *The Hymnal 1982* in hand, I set out to work. Most, if not all, of those settings eventually found a home in my first collection, *Sing, My Soul* (1996). Subsequently, two more books appeared—*Songs for a New Creation* (2002) and *New Harmony: A Harp of Thousand Strings* (2006), all published by Selah. The latter was a fruitful collaboration with the poet Richard Leach and reflected our being influenced and inspired, in various ways, by 19th-century Southern hymns, such as those from *The Sacred Harp*.

I'll Sing and Joyful Be, with few exceptions, comprises works composed since 2007. A number were commissions from churches or individuals. Some were composed to honor friends or for other special purposes. The remainder came late (December 2013–January 2014), simply to fill in the missing pieces in this collection, adding necessary variety or texture.

As was the case in my first two collections, I wanted this book to include a variety of texts, both old and new. I am especially pleased that three of my favorite writers (and also good friends)—Richard Leach, Rae Whitney, and Carl P. Daw, Jr.—are all represented in these pages.

Because I was fortunate to have had wonderful English teachers in public schools in my native South Texas, I have always been drawn to poetry. Thus, in addition to hymns and other liturgical music, secular songs and choral music have always been a prime interest for me. In the case of hymn texts, while their meaning—or message—must be sound, I also search for what I consider a use of beautiful language, or better, that which is poetic. Fine examples are found in the two texts used with the new tune Helen: Rae Whitney's "Eternity touched hands with time," for which my tune was composed, and a subsequent pairing with the brief 18th-century stanza, "When Jesus wept," for which Richard Leach wrote a second stanza, an effective reflection.

I'll Sing and Joyful Be would not have been possible without the support from those closely involved with the project, namely my publisher at Selah, David P. Schaap, and Richard Leach, who compiled the index for this book. Thanks also go to Ray Glover for his Foreword.

David Ashley White 27 January 2014

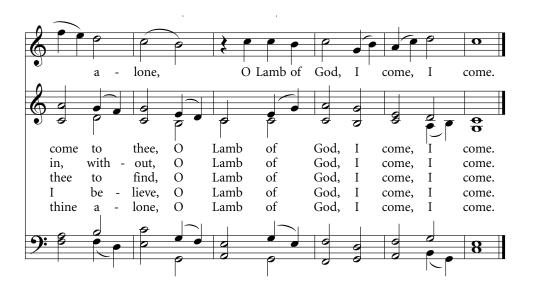
General performance notes

Suggested metronomic markings for each hymn are indicated, which, in combination with the intent of the text, should indicate the overall desired style (e.g. expressive, dancelike, etc.).

While congregational singing of these hymns is the goal, many would also be well suited for use as choir anthems.

1 ALKEK • Just As I Am

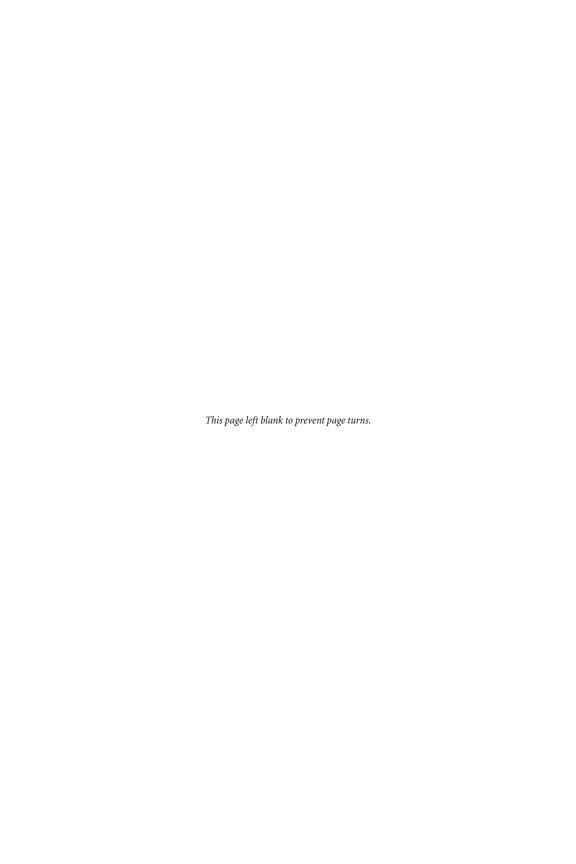




APPLETON CHAPEL • On Ships That Sail







Bread of the World • BETHANY



3

4 BISHOP RICHARDSON



Glorious Things of Thee



5 Bred Dina Vida Vingar • Thy Holy Wings



Text: St. 1, 3 Carolina Sandell, 1865, tr. Gracia Grindal; st. 2, Gracia Grindal, 1983, ©. Selah Publishing Co., agent.

Music: Swedish folk tune, arr. David Ashley White, 2010. Arr. © 2010 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.



27 Wexford Carol



A Woman Came Who Did Not Count the Cost



28 Wonder of Wonders • Wonder of Wonders



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