# Hymn of the Week

#### December 2, 2018 • Season of Advent

#### Hope Is a Candle

**Text**: Richard Leach

For the lighting of Advent candles, a stanza for each week of Advent and a Christmas stanza.

#### Music

Galloway Tam: Scottish folk melody, adapt. and arr. by David Ashley White

for Selah Songs of Rejoicing. SIMPLY PERFECT: Rusty Edwards

"Richard's text was simply perfect for use in Advent, so I wanted to write a song to go with it that was perfectly simple."-Rusty Edwards

**Topics**: Advent, Christmas, Hope, Joy, Light, Love (of others),

Mystery of God, Peace (inner)

**Scriptural reference**: Revelation 5:5–6

#### **Publications**

Feel the Spirit in the Kicking (Selah, 1995)
Over the Waves of Words (Selah, 1996)
Grateful Praise (Selah, 1998)
The Church Hymnary, Fourth Edition (Church of Scotland, 2004)
A Panorama of Christian Hymnody (GIA, 2005)
Seasons of the Spirit (Wood Lake Books)
Sing the Story (Mennonite, 2005)

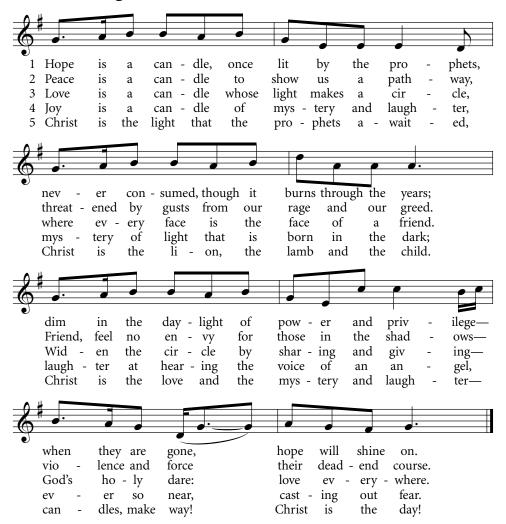
Sing to Our God New Songs of Rejoicing (Selah, 2000)

Selah Songs of Rejoicing (Selah, 2011)

Choral setting: "Christ Is the Day," Robert Moore (GIA)



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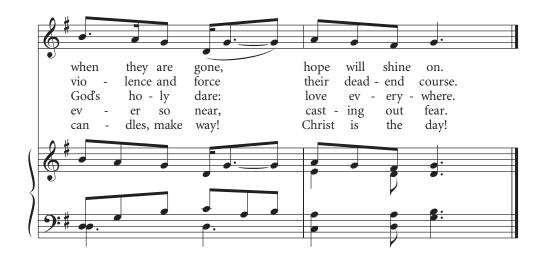


Text: Richard Leach.

Music: Scottish folk melody, adapt. and arr. David Ashley White, 2010. Text © 1996, music adapt. and arr. © 2010 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

11 10 11 8 Galloway Tam





Advent • Church Year

## Hope Is a Candle 3

Hope is a candle, once lit by the prophets, never consumed, though it burns through the years. Dim in the daylight of power and privilege—when they are gone, hope will shine on.

Peace is a candle to show us a pathway, threatened by gusts from our rage and our greed. Friend, feel no envy for those in the shadows—violence and force their dead-end course.

Love is a candle whose light makes a circle, where every face is the face of a friend. Widen the circle by sharing and giving—God's holy dare: love everywhere.

Joy is a candle of mystery and laughter, mystery of light that is born in the dark; laughter at hearing the voice of an angel, ever so near, casting out fear.

Christ is the light that the prophets awaited, Christ is the lion, the lamb, and the child. Christ is the love and the mystery and laughter—candles, make way! Christ is the day.



Text: Richard Leach, 1994. Music: Rusty Edwards, 1996. Text and music © 1996 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

11 10 11 8 Simply Perfect

