

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)

2 Hope Is a Candle



1 Hope is a can - dle, once lit by the pro - phets,
 2 Peace is a can - dle to show us a path - way,
 3 Love is a can - dle whose light makes a cir - cle,
 4 Joy is a can - dle of mys - tery and laugh - ter,
 5 Christ is the light that the pro - phets a - wait - ed,



nev - er con - sumed, though it burns through the years;
 threat - ened by gusts from our rage and our greed.
 where ev - ery face is the face of a friend.
 mys - tery of light that is born in the dark;
 Christ is the li - on, the lamb and the child.



dim in the day - light of pow - er and priv - ilege—
 Friend, feel no en - vy for those in the shad - ows—
 Wid - en the cir - cle by shar - ing and giv - ing—
 laugh - ter at hear - ing the voice of an an - gel,
 Christ is the love and the mys - tery and laugh - ter—



when they are gone, hope will shine on.
 vio - lence and force their dead - end course.
 God's ho - ly dare: love ev - ery - where.
 ev - er so near, cast - ing out fear.
 can - dles, make way! Christ is the day!

Text: Richard Leach.

Music: Scottish folk melody, adapt. and arr. David Ashley White, 2010.

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GALLOWAY TAM

2 Hope Is a Candle

1 Hope is a can - dle, once lit by the pro - phets,
 2 Peace is a can - dle to show us a path - way,
 3 Love is a can - dle whose light makes a cir - cle,
 4 Joy is a can - dle of mys - tery and laugh - ter,
 5 Christ is the light that the pro - phets a - wait - ed,

nev - er con - sumed, though it burns through the years;
 threat - ened by gusts from our rage and our greed.
 where ev - ery face is the face of a friend.
 mys - tery of light that is born in the dark;
 Christ is the li - on, the lamb and the child.

dim in the day - light of pow - er and priv - ilege—
 Friend, feel no en - vy for those in the shad - ows—
 Wid - en the cir - cle by shar - ing and giv - ing—
 laugh - ter at hear - ing the voice of an an - gel,
 Christ is the love and the mys - tery and laugh - ter—

when they are gone, hope will shine on.
 vio - lence and force their dead - end course.
 God's ho - ly dare: love ev - ery - where.
 ev - er so near, cast - ing out fear.
 can - dles, make way! Christ is the day!

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.

4 Hope Is a Candle



1 Hope is a can - dle, once lit by the proph - ets,
 2 Peace is a can - dle to show us a path - way,
 3 Love is a can - dle whose light makes a cir - cle,
 4 Joy is a can - dle of mys - tery and laugh - ter,
 5 Christ is the light that the pro - phets a - wait - ed,



nev - er con - sumed, though it burns through the years;
 threat - ened by gusts from our rage and our greed.
 where ev - ery face is the face of a friend.
 mys - tery of light that is born in the dark;
 Christ is the li - on, the lamb, and the child.



dim in the day - light of pow - er and priv - ilege—
 Friend, feel no en - vy for those in the shad - ows—
 Wid - en the cir - cle by shar - ing and giv - ing—
 laugh - ter at hear - ing the voice of an an - gel,
 Christ is the love and the mys - tery and laugh - ter—



when they are gone, hope will shine on.
 vio - lence and force their dead - end course.
 God's ho - ly dare: love ev - ery - where.
 ev - er so near, cast - ing out fear.
 can - dles, make way! Christ is the day.

4 Hope Is a Candle

Unison

1 Hope is a can - dle, once lit by the proph - ets,
 2 Peace is a can - dle to show us a path - way,
 3 Love is a can - dle whose light makes a cir - cle,
 4 Joy is a can - dle of mys - tery and laugh - ter,
 5 Christ is the light that the pro - phets a - wait - ed,

nev - er con - sumed, though it burns through the years;
 threat - ened by gusts from our rage and our greed.
 where ev - ery face is the face of a friend.
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