



Hymn of the Week

July 14, 2019 • Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive You

Text: Rae E. Whitney, 1989, based on a prayer of St. Benedict (480–547).

“The prayer of St. Benedict of Nursia, founder of Western monasticism, touched me and made itself into a hymn text. Since he used the phrase ‘Holy Father,’ I did also, but when the editors of *The New Century Hymnal* asked to change it to ‘God of Mercy,’ I was quite agreeable. Benedict prayed:

Gracious and Holy Father, please give me:
intellect to understand you, reason to discern you, diligence to seek you,
wisdom to find you, a spirit to know you, a heart to meditate upon you, ears to hear you,
eyes to see you, a tongue to proclaim you, a way of life pleasing to you,
patience to wait for you, and perseverance to look for you.

Grant me a perfect end, your holy presence, a blessed resurrection, and life everlasting.”
–Rae E. Whitney

Music: QUEM PASTORES, German carol (Public domain)
BENEDICT, Carol Doran

Topics: Christian Life, Faithfulness, Prayer, Wisdom

Scripture reference: Colossians 1:9–10

Publications

Hymns of Heritage & Hope (Advent Christian General Conference, 2001)

New Century Hymnal (United Church of Christ, 1995)

New Songs of Rejoicing (Selah, 1994)


Selah Songs of Rejoicing (Selah, 2011)

Songs for the People of God (ed. Landis, 1994)

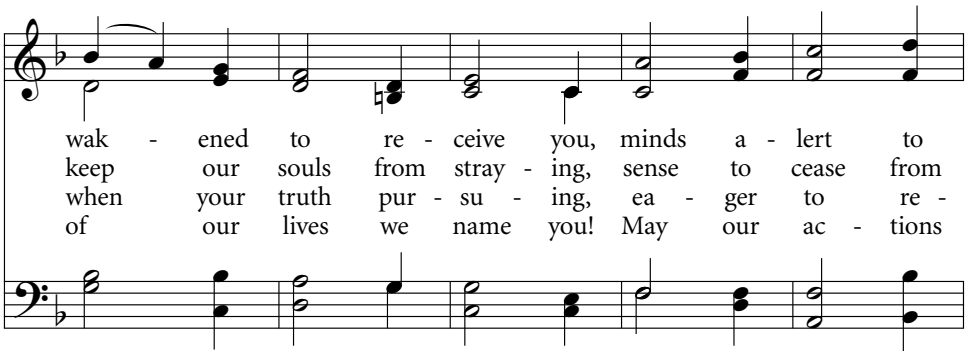


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Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive You



1 Grant us wis - dom to per - ceive you, hearts a -
 2 Grant us faith - ful - ness in pray - ing, strength to
 3 Grant us dil - i - gence in do - ing, pa - tience
 4 Grant us cour - age to pro - claim you; Sav - ior



wak - ened to re - ceive you, minds a - lert to
 keep our souls from stray - ing, sense to cease from
 when your truth pur - su - ing, ea - ger to re -
 of our lives we name you! May our ac - tions



thoughts that grieve you; Ho - ly Fa - ther, hear us.
 dis - o - bey - ing; Ho - ly Fa - ther, hear us.
 ceive re - new - ing; Ho - ly Fa - ther, hear us.
 nev - er shame you; Ho - ly Fa - ther, hear us.

Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive You

Grant us wisdom to perceive you,
hearts awakened to receive you,
minds alert to thoughts that grieve you;
Holy Father, hear us.

Grant us faithfulness in praying,
strength to keep our souls from straying,
sense to cease from disobeying;
Holy Father, hear us.

Grant us diligence in doing,
patience when your truth pursuing,
eager to receive renewing;
Holy Father, hear us.

Grant us courage to proclaim you;
Savior of our lives we name you!
May our actions never shame you;
Holy Father, hear us.

Note: The refrain “Holy Father, hear us” may be changed to “God of mercy, hear us.”

Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive You

1 Grant us wis - dom to per - ceive you, heart a -
 2 Grant us faith - ful - ness in pray - ing, strength to
 3 Grant us dil - i - gence in do - ing, pa - tience
 4 Grant us cour - age to pro - claim you; may our

wak - ened to re - ceive you, minds a - lert to thoughts that
 keep our souls from stray - ing, sense to cease from dis - o -
 when your truth pur - su - ing, eag - er to re - ceive re -
 ac - tions nev - er shame you, but as Lord for - ev - er

grieve you, Ho - ly Fa - ther, hear us.
 bey - ing, Ho - ly Fa - ther, hear us.
 new - ing, Ho - ly Fa - ther, hear us.
 name you; Ho - ly Fa - ther, hear us.

Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive You



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 name you; Ho - ly Fa - ther, hear us.

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