

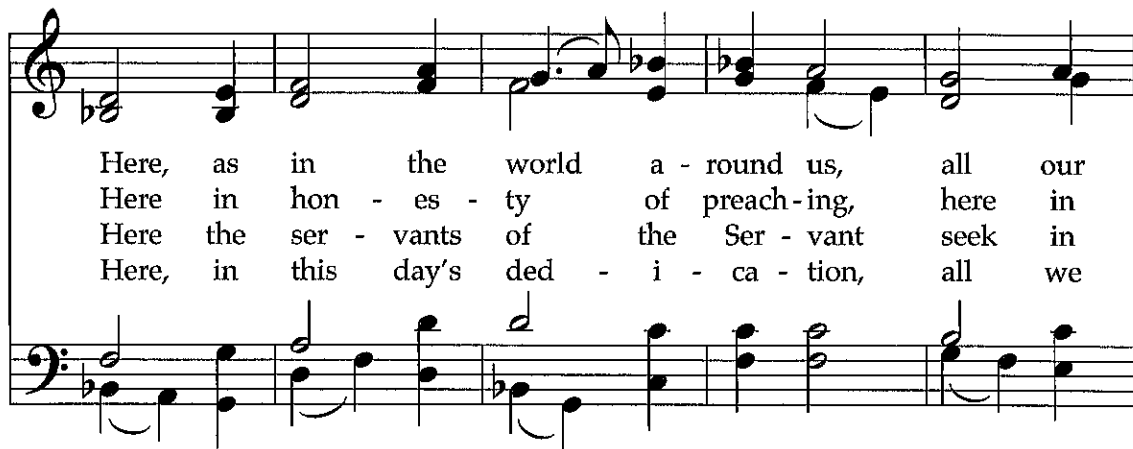
## God Is Here!

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to  
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our  
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the  
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an

of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in  
 life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,  
 Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and  
 age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful

full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.  
 font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.  
 wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.  
 to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.

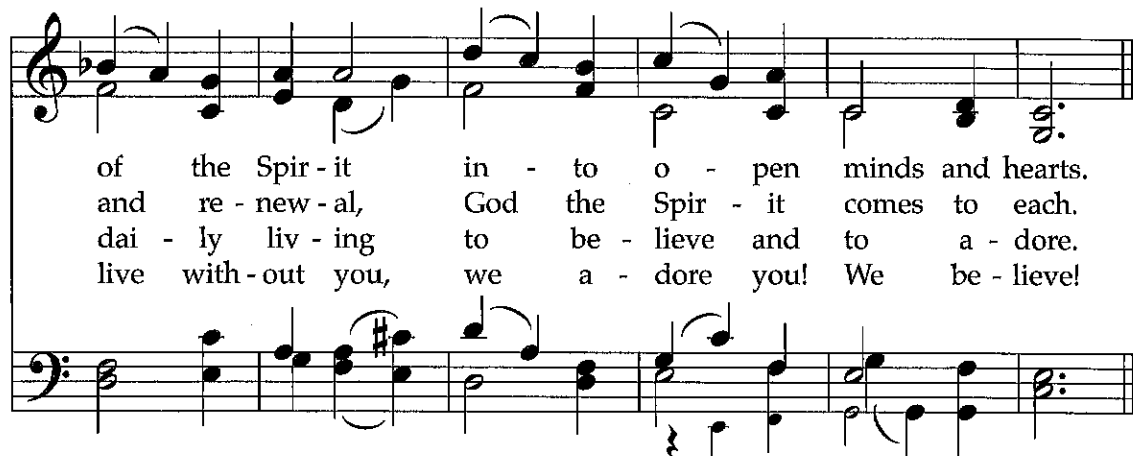
Commissioned for the dedication of a renovated worship space in Austin, Texas, this text is one of the few to devote attention to how customary church features facilitate worship. The tune was composed in wartime Britain to replace a Haydn tune tainted by Nazi associations.



Here, as in the world a - round us, all our  
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in  
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in  
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we



var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing  
 si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness  
 wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in  
 have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not



of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
 dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
 live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

# Jesus Loves Me!

1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so.  
 2 Je - sus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long a - go,

Lit - tle ones to him be-long. They are weak, but he is strong.  
 tak - ing chil-dren on his knee, say - ing, "Let them come to me."

*Refrain*

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

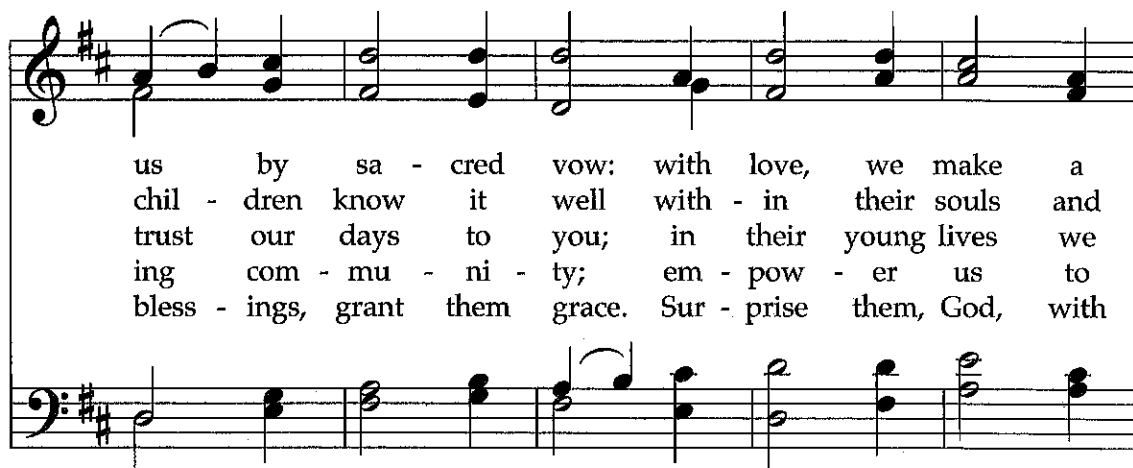
Few songs of faith have supported people from cradle to grave like this one. The great theologian Karl Barth said that its opening two lines were a summary of all that he had learned. The composer formed the refrain from those lines when creating this universally used tune.

## These Treasured Children

487



1 These trea - sured chil - dren pres - ent now are bound to  
 2 Our an - cient sto - ry we shall tell, till these our  
 3 We long to trust as chil - dren do and so en -  
 4 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, help us be a nur - tur -  
 5 Then, ten - der God, each child em - brace; God give them



us by sa - cred vow: with love, we make a  
 chil - dren know it well with - in their souls and  
 trust our days to you; in their young lives we  
 ing com - mu - ni - ty; em - pow - er us to  
 bless - ings, grant them grace. Sur - prise them, God, with



heart - felt claim to wel - come them in Je - sus' name.  
 minds and hearts, for this is where their jour - ney starts.  
 clear - ly see a les - son in hu - mil - i - ty.  
 re - a - lize God's king - dom through our chil - dren's eyes.  
 won - ders still, and gent - ly guide them to your will.

This text emphasizes the covenantal dimensions of baptism, most obvious in the baptism of children (though also present in the baptism of adults), including the worshiping community's commitment to acquaint children with salvation history and to learn from their humble trust.

# 53 O God, Who Gives Us Life

1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,  
 2 O God, who calls your peo-ple out to ven-ture and to dare,  
 3 O God of cov-e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,

who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:  
 to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:  
 your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.

de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.  
 when we de-spair in wan - der - ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,  
 Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,

Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.  
 re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.  
 as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Christians often fail to appreciate how much we can learn about God from the Hebrew Scriptures. This text draws on a variety of passages that call attention to God's faithfulness toward the Chosen People and the promise of a new covenant written on the heart (Jeremiah 31:31-34).