Acknowledgments

I thank the poets and composers whose work is the substance of this collection: their creativity, faith, and love of God always encourages me and their work gives us all hope, joy, and new understanding.

I am yet again indebted to Richard Leach for his numerous readings of and valuable contributions to this supplement. I would also like to acknowledge Henry Admiraal for his work on the scriptural index.

Twenty years ago, Virginia Lee Schaap started to work at Selah (well before I married her). She is the primary reason Selah has thrived and grown over the years with her hard work, attention to detail, management of customer service and accounting, and I dedicate this book to her.

David P. Schaap
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Introduction

Selah Songs of Rejoicing is a celebration of our company’s hymn publishing efforts over the last two decades. Selah Publishing Co. has the largest number of hymn collections in print of any current publisher with our one-author/composer collections, supplements, and special collections. The hymns in our catalog number in the thousands, and our hymns have been reprinted in many denominational hymnals and supplements and are used around the world.

Selah Publishing Co. published our first hymnal supplement Songs of Rejoicing: Hymns for Worship, Meditation, and Praise in 1989, and its successor, New Songs of Rejoicing, in 1994. Our third supplement, Sing to Our God New Songs of Rejoicing was published in 2000. We are grateful to see the continued impact these supplements have on churches today, and expect this collection to make its way into the church’s usage as well. This supplement shows our continued faith in congregational song and how it can move and change the church and her people, and it also shows our support for the authors and composers whose work we admire, in the hope that they will continue to give the church new ways of expressing our faith.

The hymns are organized into sections, beginning with songs for the church seasons, followed by scriptural hymns, hymns on the theme of the Christian in the world, and finally hymns for use in the liturgy of the church. Extensive indexes are included to aid in hymn selection, since many hymns could easily fit in more than one section.

These poets and composers have a great deal to say to the church in this century. We are publishing this hymnal because we firmly believe that these hymns have much to offer the church and those who sing them. What I wrote in the last two supplements is still true of these hymns: “It is when we sing these hymns that they will come alive within us, and help us to praise God and understand better, if still only dimly, the mystery of God’s love and grace.”

David P. Schaap, editor

Abbreviations & Symbols

alt. altered
adapt. adapted by
arr. arranged by
b. born
c.a. circa (around)
cent. century
CM common meter (86 86)
CMD common meter double
harm. harmonized by
LM long meter (88 88)
para. paraphrased by
rev. revised
SM short meter (66 86)
st. stanza(s)
tr. translated by
vers. versified by
O Child of Promise, Come

Unison

1 O Child of promise, come! O come, Em-
2 The Lord's true Servant, come, in whom is
3 O come, anointed One, to show blind
4 O Man of sorrows, come, despised and

Am

man - uel! Come, Prince of Peace, to
his delight, on whom his holy
eyes your face! Good tidings to the
cast aside! O bear our griefs, and

D7

Da - vid's throne; come, God, with us to dwell!
Spir - it rests, the Gen - tiles' prom - ised light!
poor an - nounce; proclaim God's year of grace!
by your wounds re - deem us from our pride!

GM7

5 O come, God's holy Lamb, to death be meekly led! O save the many by your blood, for sin so gladly shed!
6 O come, Messiah King, to reign in endless light, when heav'nly peace at last goes forth from Zion's holy height!

CM7

Topics
Advent, Deliverance, King (God as), Lamb (God as), Peace (world), Redemption, Return of Christ, Salvation

Scriptural references

Publications
Celebrating the Eucharist (Liturgical Press, 2005); New Songs of Rejoicing (Selah, 1994)

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2 Hope Is a Candle

1 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—
   Friend, feel no envy for those in the shadows—
   Christ is the love and the mystery and laughter—

2 Peace is a candle to show us a pathway,
   threatened by gusts from our rage and our greed.
   Widened the circle by sharing and giving—
   laughter at hearing the voice of an angel,
   Christ is the light that the prophets awaited,

3 Love is a candle whose light makes a circle,
   where every face is the face of a friend.
   Mystery of light that is born in the dark;
   Christ is the lion, the lamb and the child.

4 Joy is a candle of mystery and laughter,
   whose light makes a circle, where every face is the face of a friend.
   Mystery of light that is born in the dark;
   Christ is the light that the prophets awaited,

5 Christ is the light that the prophets awaited,
   where every face is the face of a friend.
   Mystery of light that is born in the dark;
   Christ is the light that the prophets awaited,
   Christ is the light that the prophets awaited,

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

Music
Arranged by David Ashley White for this publication.

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); Choral setting: “Christ Is the Day,” Robert Moore (GIA)

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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.
Hope Is a Candle

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

Music
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); Grateful Praise (Selah, 1998); Over the Waves of Words (Selah, 1996); 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); Choral setting: “Christ Is the Day,” Robert Moore (GIA)
One Wedding Dress Long Put Away

1 One wedding dress long put away and one still to be worn— with God all things are possible; two babies will be born.

2 To Mary, yet to be a bride, the angel Gabriel came. With God all things are possible; she hears her baby’s name.

3 Like Elizabeth so long a wife—no motherhood for her! With God all things are possible; she feels her baby stir.

4 Like Mary, we wait for the day that find that day and hope for new life gone.

5 O God, with you we hear the name of life unplanned and free— we feel the kicking of the life it seemed could never be.

6 One wedding dress long put away and one still to be worn— with God all things are possible; two babies will be born!

Music

Topics
Advent, Biblical Names (Elizabeth, Gabriel, Mary), New Heaven and Earth

Scriptural reference

Publications

Music: Sixteen Tune Settings, 1812; attr. Elkanah Kelsey Dare; harm. David Ashley White, 1994.
Text and harm. © 1994 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

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Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice

Text
This text was written for a Hymn Society of America competition for Advent Hymns in 1985. This hymn was submitted to the competition with David Ashley White’s tune Josephine.

St. 1. All four gospels identify John the Baptist with the prophecy of Isaiah 40:3 (see Matthew 3:1–12, Mark 1:2–8, Luke 3:1–20; John 1:19-28). The preaching attributed to him in stanzas 1 and 2 is based primarily on the account in Matthew.

St. 2. There are intentional echoes here of Galatians 5:22–23 and Colossians 3:1-2.

St. 3. The final stanza attempts to blend the acclamation of John the Baptist (John 1:29, 26) with the frequent images of the triumphant Lamb in the Book of Revelation (5:6–14).

—Carl P. Daw, Jr.
(from A Year of Grace, © 1990 Hope Publishing Co.)

Music
Tune named for the Texas town, home of the composer’s family.

Topics
Advent, Biblical Names (John the Baptist), Lamb of God

Scriptural references
Isaiah 40:3; Matthew 3:1–12; Mark 1:2–8; Luke 3:1–20; John 1:19–29; Galatians 5:22–23; Colossians 3:1–2; 1 John 1:29, 36; Revelation 5:6–14

Publications
Faith We Sing (United Methodist Publishing, 2002); Sing the Faith (Westminster/John Knox, 2003); Sing the Story (Mennonite Publishing, 2007); Songs of Rejoicing (Selah, 1989)
sin and be baptized; cleanse your heart and mind and
Lord will come in power, burning clean the threshing
dare to journey on, led by faith through ways un-

soul. Quitting all the sins you prized, yield your
floor: then will flames the chaff devour; wheat a-
trod, till we come at last like John to be-

life to God's control."
lone shall fill God's store."
hold the Lamb of God.
Text
A hymn for the meeting of Mary and Elizabeth in Luke 1. Elizabeth hears Mary's voice and the baby she is pregnant with "leaps for joy."

–Richard Leach

Music
Dance of Praise is a tune composed especially for this text. Note how, in stanza 2, the highest and lowest pitches at the beginning of the second phrase seem at first to contradict the words with which they are paired, as "high and low change places."

Topics
Biblical Names (Elizabeth, Mary), Christmas, Dance, Holy Spirit, Praise and Adoration

Scriptural reference

Publications
Feel the Spirit in the Kicking (Selah, 1995); Hymns of Universal Praise (2002); Over the Waves of Words (Selah, 1996); Sing to Our God New Songs of Rejoicing (Selah, 2000)

"Feel the Spirit in the Kicking"


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Mary, woman of the promise,
vessel of your people's dreams,
through your open, willing spirit
waters of God's goodness streamed.

Mary, song of holy wisdom
sung before the world began,
faithful to the Word within,
you carried out God's wondrous plan.

Mary, morning star of justice,
mirror of the Radiant Light,
in the shadows of life's journey,
be a beacon for our sight.

Mary, model of compassion,
wounded by your offspring's pain,
when our hearts are torn by sorrow,
teach us how to love again.

Mary, woman of the Gospel,
humble home for treasured seed,
help us to be true disciples,
bearing fruit in word and deed.
Mary, Woman of the Promise

Music

Gratia Plena (“full of grace”) was composed for this text. Both text and tune were winners in a Marian hymn competition sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lansing, Michigan.

Topics

Biblical Names (Mary), Wisdom

Scriptural references

Luke 1:26–38, 2:35

Publications

The Alfred V. Fedak Hymnary (Selah, 1990); Celebrating the Eucharist (Liturgical Press, 2004); Catholic Book of Worship III (1994); New Songs of Rejoicing (Selah, 1994)


Gratia Plena

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1 Advent people, watch and hope; God will not delay.
2 Advent people, watch and hope; strive for what is just.
3 Advent people, watch and hope; weep and laugh and share.
4 Advent people, watch and hope; Christ that day will bring.
5 Advent people, watch and hope; God's good gift receive.

God will bring the kingdom in; meanwhile, work and pray.
God will make the crooked straight; meanwhile, work and trust.
Bread with those you find in need. Till his coming, care.
Free-dom, whole-ness, joy, and peace. Mean-while, work, and sing.
Now and Then are in God's hands; work and rest and live.

Music
I found Jane's text in her book, Grace Noted. She had written so many wonderful tunes for my texts, that it was time to “reverse roles.” With her blessing and kind words, I submitted it for publication.
–Rusty Edwards

Topics
Advent, Christian Life, Justice,
New Heaven and Earth

Publications
Grateful Praise (Selah, 1998),
Supplement 99 (Hope, 1999)
Told of God’s favor, told of God’s purpose,
Mary said, “Tell me, how can this be?”
Told of the Spirit, told of the power,
told of the promise, Mary said yes.

Yes to conceiving, yes to the body
changing and growing, yes to the flesh—
yes to the new life kicking within her,
yes to the pleasure, yes to the pain.

Yes to the waiting, yes to the labor,
yes to the hurting, yes to the birth—
yes to the baby, yes to the future,
yes to the holy, yes to the world.

Told of Christ Jesus, told of the Spirit,
can we say yes as Mary said yes?
Yes for our bodies, yes for our spirits,
yes for the future, yes for right now.

Praise to the Spirit, praise to the Most High
sending the word that Mary was told.
Praise to Christ Jesus, who was made welcome
into our world when Mary said yes.

Topics
Advent, Biblical Names (Mary),
Christmas, Discipleship, Holy Spirit

Scriptural reference
Luke 1:26–38

Publications
Credo (Selah, 2011); Feel the Spirit
in the Kicking (Selah, 1995); New
Songs of Rejoicing (Selah, 1994);
Over the Waves of Words (Selah,
1996); A Panorama of Christian
Hymnody (GIA, 2005); Choral
setting: “Mary Said Yes,” Russell
Schulz-Widmar (Selah)
13 Told of God’s Favor

Music
This tune and my tune SANJEEV are named after a friend from India whom I knew when he was a student at the University of Texas, Sanjeev Bordoloi, and his nickname is Bordy. Bordy was written to carry the words of Richard’s wonderful “Mary said yes,” which I later expanded into the anthem.  
—Russell Schulz-Widmar

Topics
Advent, Biblical Names (Mary), Christmas, Discipleship, Holy Spirit

Scriptural reference
Luke 1:26–38

Publications
Feel the Spirit in the Kicking (Selah, 1995); Over the Waves of Words (Selah, 1996); New Songs of rejoicing (Selah, 1994); Credo (Selah, 2011); Choral setting:”Mary Said Yes,” Russell Schulz-Widmar (Selah, 405-201)


87 87D

BORDY

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