

## 410 God Is Calling through the Whisper

1 God is call-ing through the whis-per of the Spir - it's deep-est sighs,  
2 God is call-ing through the voic-es of our neigh-bors' ur-gent prayers,  
3 God is call-ing through the mu-sic of sub-lime and hu-man arts,

through the thrill of sud-den beau-ties that can catch us by sur-prise.  
through their long-ing for re-demp-tion and for res-cue from de-spair.  
through the hymns of earth and an-gels, and the car-ols of our hearts.

Flash of light-ning, crash of thun-der; hush of still-ness, rush of won-der:  
Place of hurt or face of need-ing; stri-dent cry or si-lent plead-ing:  
Lift of joy and gift of sing-ing; days and nights our prais-es bring-ing:

God is call - ing—can you hear? God is call - ing—can you hear?  
God is call - ing—can you hear? God is call - ing—can you hear?  
God is call - ing—and we hear! God is call - ing—and we hear!

This wide-ranging text reminds us of the many surprising and urgent ways God calls to us, both to draw us near and to send us forth. In the third line of music it is especially effective at harnessing the momentum of the phrases that are each a note higher than the one before.

## 411 God Is Here Today

*Dios está aquí*

Capo 2: (D) (A7) (Bm) (D7) (E7)  
E B7 C#m E7

God is here to - day;  
*Dios es - tá a - quí,*

(A7) (D) (D7)  
B7 E E7

as the air I breathe,  
*ai - re que res - pi - ro,*

(A7) (D) (A/C#) (B7)  
B7 E B/D# C#

as the morn - ing sun that ris  
*la ma - ña - na se le - van*

Though it is popular throughout Latin America, the conditions of this song's creation has been once thought to have originated in a Mexican jail but is now known to have been created by an Argentinian who has also lived in the United States and Colombia.

# 187 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

1 Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten-der care.  
 2 We are yours: in love be - friend us; be the guard-ian of our way.  
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin-ful though we be;  
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor; ear - ly let us do your will.

In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us; for our use your fold pre-pare.  
 Keep your flock: from sin de - fend us; seek us when we go a-stray.  
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.  
 Bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us; love us still.

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us: we are yours.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us; love us still.

This unattributed hymn, like many that are now meaningful to adults, was written for children and develops shepherd imagery from Psalm 23 and John 10:1-18. The tune, composed for these words, was originally named for the text but has come to be known by the composer's name.

# 188

# 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 turned the refrain from those lines when creating this universally used tune.

## 542 God Be with You Till We Meet Again

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing  
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen  
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's  
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's

coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en -  
 wings pro - tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro -  
 per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a -  
 ban - ner float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be -

fold you:  
 vide you:  
 round you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
 fore you:

## 543 God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

O Christ, Surround Me

1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
 2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness  
 3 Bright - ness of sun and glow of moon - light, flash - ing of light - ning  
 4 Walk - ing be - hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that

move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me;  
 es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness;  
 strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et;  
 light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways;  
 hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me;

O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

After writing the first stanza of his "Christian Good-bye," the author sent it to two composers, one celebrated and one unknown, to see how each would set it. This is the second person's tune, which the author found more effective and used for the hymn's first publication.

This hymn is a 21st-century adaptation of the traditional Celtic prayer style known as a *lorica* (Latin for "armor" or "breastplate").