MS Friendship I

MS Friendship I contains twenty-seven hymns, all dating from the 1740s. Several of the initial hymns in the collection reflect the growing split between Moravian, Reformed, and Wesleyan strands of the revival in the mid 1740s, as Wesley laments the loss of former friends like Benjamin Ingham and George Stonehouse (compare hymn III, for example, to the 1743 hymn in MS Epistles, 1–35). Many of the later hymns in the collection were originally written by Wesley for Sarah Gwynne, as part of their courtship. Now he is gathering the hymns for a more generic collection on Christian friendship. This revised purpose is evident in the frequent strikeouts in the manuscript of female pronouns and references, opting for male terms as more generic. Most of the hymns in this first revised draft were then copied in polished form, and a slightly revised order, into a second notebook—MS Friendship II. Nearly all of the hymns then found publication as a subsection of *Hymns and Sacred Poems* (1749). The published locations are shown in blue font in the Table of Contents.

MS Friendship I is a sewn manuscript notebook of 112 pages (3.75 x 6.25 inches in size). Many of the pages are left blank, both at the beginning and between some hymns. The last twenty pages of the notebook contain Wesley’s expense journal for October 1786 to Christmas 1787 (starting at the back of the journal and written on the verso of the pages). The pages containing hymns were not numbered by Wesley. The hymns are presented below reflecting page breaks in the original notebook. However, we have numbered the pages consecutively, ignoring blank pages, and omitting the expense journal.

MS Friendship I is part of the collection in the Methodist Archive and Research Centre, accession number MA 1977/558 (Charles Wesley Notebooks Box 2). The transcription below is provided with permission of the Librarian and Director, The John Rylands Library, The University of Manchester.

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1This document was produced by the Duke Center for Studies in the Wesleyan Tradition under the editorial direction of Randy L. Maddox, with the diligent assistance of Aileen F. Maddox. Last updated: August 1, 2010.
Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>HSP (1749)</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>2:274–75</td>
<td>1–2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>2:275–76</td>
<td>3–4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>2:276–77</td>
<td>5–6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>1:279–80</td>
<td>7–8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>2:289–90</td>
<td>9–10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>2:288–89</td>
<td>11–12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>2:297–98</td>
<td>13–14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII.</td>
<td>HSP (1749), 2:285–86</td>
<td>16–17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX</td>
<td>2:277–78</td>
<td>18–19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td>2:273–74</td>
<td>20–21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI</td>
<td>2:285</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII.</td>
<td>After Parting HSP (1749), 2:286–88</td>
<td>23–24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII</td>
<td>2:291–92</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIV</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XV</td>
<td>2:292–93</td>
<td>28–29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVI</td>
<td>2:290–91</td>
<td>30–31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVII</td>
<td>2:282–83</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVIII</td>
<td>HSP (1749), 2:309–310</td>
<td>33–34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloria Patri</td>
<td>HSP (1749), 2:310</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIX</td>
<td>2:280–81</td>
<td>36–37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XX</td>
<td>2:295–96</td>
<td>38–39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXI</td>
<td>2:293–94</td>
<td>40–41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXII</td>
<td></td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXIII</td>
<td>HSP (1749), 2:308–309</td>
<td>43–44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXIV</td>
<td>HSP (1749), 2:313–14</td>
<td>45–46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXV</td>
<td>HSP (1749), 2:281–82</td>
<td>47–48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXVI</td>
<td>HSP (1749), 2:283–84</td>
<td>49–50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXVII</td>
<td>HSP (1749), 2:311–12</td>
<td>51–52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I. To—“The Lord my Pasture shall prepare.”

[1.] Jesus, with kindest Pity see
   Two Souls that would be One in Thee,
   If now accepted in thy Sight
   Thou dost our simple Hearts unite,³
   Allow⁴ us, while on Earth to prove
   The noblest Joys of Heavenly Love.

2. Before thy Glorious Eyes we spread
   The Wish which doth from Thee proceed,
   Our Love from earthly Dross refine,
   Holy, angelical, Divine
   O let it its great Author shew,
   And back to the pure Fountain flow.

3. A Drop of that unbounded Sea,
   O GOD, resorb it unto Thee
   While both our Souls with restless Strife
   Spring up into Eternal Life,
   And lost in endless Rapture prove
   Thy whole Immensity of Love.

4. A Spark of that Etherial Fire
   Still let it to its Source aspire,
   To Thee in every Wish return,
   Intensely for thy Glory burn,

²Charles sent this hymn to Sarah Gwynne with a letter dated December 23, 1748. It appears also in MS Friendship II, 9. Published in HSP (1749), 2:274–75. A helpful comparison of variant readings in the various appearances is available in Representative Verse, 199–200.
³Ori., “Our simple childlike Hearts unite.”
⁴Ori., “And grant.”
With both our Souls fly up to Thee,
And blaze thro’ all Eternity.
II. To—“Tis finish'd, tis done!”

[1.] My Jesus, my all,
    Thy Name I confess,
    My Freedom in Thrall,
    My Help in Distress:
    Thy boundless Compassion
    The Cordial did send,
    The strong Consolation
    Convey'd in a Friend.

2. The hallow’d Delight
    With thanks I receive,
    And give Thee thy Right,
    In Praises I give:
    The Bliss-giving Power,
    And Glory be Thine;
    The plentiful Shower
    Of Blessings is Mine.

3. I now on the Scale
    Of Friendship arise, 6
    The Kingdom assail,
    And press to the Skies,
    To Joys never-ending
    My Comforts improve,
    From Earthly ascending
    To Heavenly Love.

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5 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 10–11. Published in HSP (1749), 2:275–76.
6 Ori., “ascend.”
4. Thy Goodness I taste,
   Thy Goodness proclaim,
   And joyfully haste
   To sup with the Lamb,
   Together invited
   Our Lord we pursue,
   With Vigour united
   We fight our way thro’.

5. Caught up in the Air
   I soon shall ascend,
   The Kingdom to share
   With Thee and my Friend
   (On Earth to Each other,
   In Heaven well known)
   And I with my Brother
   Shall sit on thy Throne.
III.7
To—“O Love Divine.”

[1.] What shall I do my GOD to love,
Who pours his Blessings from above,
And comforts without End!
Let all my grateful Soul embrace
His rich Invaluable Grace
Vouchsafe’d me in a Friend.

2. My Former Friend⁸ (forever dear,
Forever mention’d with a Tear)
Did long ago depart,
On Honour’s Fatal Gilboa
He vilely cast his Shield away
And broke my faithful Heart.

3. But lo! when Jonathan was dead,
I found an Hushai in his stead,
Restorer of my Peace,
A Friend in all my Conflicts tried
Who never started from my Side,
Or left me in Distress.

4. A Minister of Heavenly Love,
In Paths that tend to Joys above
My shining Pattern treads:
He meets me still in Jesus Name,
And back to Him from whom he came
My thankful Spirit leads.

⁷Appears also in MS Friendship II, 11–13. Published in HSP (1749), 2:276–77.
⁸This is likely a reference to George Stonehouse; cf. MS Epistles, p. 9, ln 126.
5. Friend of my Soul, its Griefs he shares,
   Confirms my Hands by mighty Prayers,
   And props my feeble Knees,
   On Earth He helps me to look down,
   And bids me seize with Him the Crown
   Of Life and Righteousness.

6. O might I rise by Love restor’d,
   And following Him, as He his Lord,
   These Storms of Care outfly,
   This Cloudy Atmosphere transcend,
   And claim, and grasp my happy Friend
   In purer Worlds on high.
IV.9

To—"Arise, my Soul, arise."

[1.] Thou GOD of Truth and Love
   We seek thy perfect way,
   Ready thy Choice t’ approve,
   Thy Providence t’ obey,
   Enter into thy wise Design,
   And sweetly lose our Will in Thine.

2. Why hast Thou cast our Lot
   In the same Age and Place,
   Or why together brought
   To see Each other’s Face
   To join with softest Sympathy,10
   And mix our friendly Souls in Thee.

3. Didst Thou not make us One,
   That Both might One remain,
   Together travel on,
   And bear Each other’s Pain,
   Till both thy utmost Goodness prove,
   And rise renew’d in perfect Love.

4. Surely Thou didst unite
   Our kindred Spirits here,
   That Both hereafter might
   Before thy Throne appear,
   Meet at the Marriage of the Lamb,
   And all thy Glorious Love proclaim.

9Appears also in MS Friendship II, 14–16. Published in HSP (1749), 1:279–80.
10Ori., “To join in Sym with softest Sympathy.”
5. Then let us ever bear
   The Blessed End in view,
   And join with mutual Care
   To fight our Passage thro’
   And kindly help Each other on,
   Till Both receive the Starry Crown.

6. O might thy Spirit seal
   Our Souls unto that Day,
   With all thy Fulness fill,
   And then transport away,
   Away to our Eternal Rest,
   Away to our Redeemer’s Breast.

7. There, only there we shall
   Fulfil thy great Design,
   And in thy Praise with all
   Our Elder Brethren join,
   And hymn in Songs which ne’er should end,
   Our Heavenly Everlasting Friend.
V.\textsuperscript{11}

To—“Come to Judgment, come away.”

1. Come, the Heavenly Peace Divine!
   Enter this sad Heart of mine;
   Come, the Everlasting Rest,
   Visit my Companion’s Breast!
   \textit{Dwell} within my Other Soul
   Let our Social Joy\textsuperscript{12} be full!

2. Whom thy Grace to me hath lent,
   Lord, I at thy Throne present,
   Object of my tenderest Care
   Mention \textit{Him} in Every Prayer,
   Instant ask That Both may be
   One, forever One, in Thee.

3. What Thou dost on One confer
   Let us Both delight to share,
   Both the heighten’d Blessing taste,
   Both to thy Embraces haste,
   Sweetly on thy Bosom prove
   All the Pleasantness of Love.

\textsuperscript{11}Appears also in MS Friendship II, 29–30. Published in \textit{HSP} (1749), 2:289–90.

\textsuperscript{12}Ori., “my Happiness” changed to “our Social Joy.”
4. Let us thus with even Pace
  Measure out our quiet Days,
  Calmly thro’ the Valley glide,
  Led by our Celestial Guide,
  Lovely\footnote{Ori., "Pleasant."} in our Lives beneath,
  Not divided in our Death.
VI.\textsuperscript{14}

To—“Thou GOD of glorious Majesty.”

[1.] Thou Son of GOD, whose flaming eyes
Mark every Wish and Thought that rise
In this poor troubled Heart,
Disclose, drag out, to open light
The Things displeasing in thy Sight,
And bid them all depart.

2. Wretched, and void of GOD, and blind,
Woudst Thou that I should Comfort find,
And Ease in Aught below,
Or rather bear my Utmost Load,
And shrink from every Creature-Good,
Till Thee my Lord I know.

3. ’Spite of Myself resolv’d t’ obey,
I tear the dear Right-Eye away,
If it my Lord offend,
I bow me to the Will Divine,
My Life, and more than Life resign—
I give Thee back my Friend.

4. Thy Will be done, whate’er it be,
Thy blessed Will concerning me
I awfully adore:
If Thou demand my Only Prop,
I yield, my darling Isaac\textsuperscript{15} up,
And see his Face no more.

\textsuperscript{14}Appears also in MS Friendship II, 26–27. Published in \textit{HSP} (1749), 2:288–89.

\textsuperscript{15}Ori., “I yield to give Him” changed to “my darling Isaac.”
5. No more—till that thrice welcome Day,
When Heav’n and Earth shall pass away
   Before thy Glorious Face:
We then shall both to Thee repair,
And catch Each Other in the Air,
   And fly\textsuperscript{16} to thy Embrace.

6. For This—I part with him below,
Let us but meet above, and know
   Each Other in the Throng,
Partake the Heavnly Bridal Feast,
And sing, reclining on thy Breast
   The Lamb’s Eternal Song.

\textsuperscript{16}Ori., “haste.”
VII.17

To the Tune of—

[1.] Jesus, Lord, whose Only Merit
    Can the Dying Sinner save,
    Let me render up my Spirit,
    Quickly find my long-sought Grave:
    Come in this thrice welcome Hour,
    Thy sad Captive to release,
    Snatch me from the Adverse Power,
    Change, and bid me die in Peace.

2. Is there in this low Creation
    That for which I wish to live?
    All my Bliss and Consolation
    Would I not from Thee receive?
    Earthly Joys—I long to lose ’em,
    Least my Saviour I offend:
    Let me sink into thy Bosom—
    Let me leave to18 Thee my Friend.

3. Him to the all-gracious Lender19
    Lo! I cheerfully restore,20
    Thou, my GOD, be his Defender,21
    Till He follows me to Shore:
    Let him trust in thy Protection,
    Live from Sin and Sorrow free,

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17Appears also in MS Friendship II, 40–41. Published in *HSP* (1749), 2:297–98.
18Ori., “with.”
19Wesley struck out his original first line, rendering it illegible.
20Ori., “To the Lender I restore.”
21Ori., “always near him” changed to “his Defender.”
Place on Thee his whole affection,
Rest his happy Soul on Thee.

4. Jesus, crown thine own Desire,
   Take the Soul I Thee bequeath,
   His accept, and mine require,
   Open now the Gates of Death,
   Draw me thro’ the Bloody Fountain,
   Closing now my willing Eyes,
   Now escaping to the Mountain
   Let me wake in Paradice.
Jesus, Lord, whose Dying Merit.²²

²²This apparent first line of a new poem (a slight revision of the opening of the previous poem) stands incomplete on a page otherwise blank on both sides.
VIII.
At Parting. 23
To—“Rejoice, the Lord, is King!”

[1.] Lord, we thy Will obey,
    And in thy Pleasure rest,
    We, only We can say
    Whatever is, is Best;
    Joyful to meet, and glad to part,
    Assur’d we still are One in Heart.

2. Hereby we sweetly know
    Our Love proceeds from Thee
    We let Each other go,
    From every Creature free,
    And cry, in answer to thy Call,
    Thou art, O Christ, our All in All.

3. Our Husband, Brother, Friend,
    Our Minister 24 Divine,
    Thy Chosen Ones depend
    On no Support but Thine;
    Our Everlasting Comforter,
    We cannot want, if Thou art here.

4. Still let us, Dearest Lord,
    Sit loose to all below,

23 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 23–24. Published in HSP (1749), 2:285–86.
24 Ori., “Counseller.”
And to thy Love restor’d
    No other Comfort know,
Stand fast in Glorious Liberty
And live, and die wrapt up in Thee.
IX.25
To—“Hail holy holy holy Lord.”

1. See, dearest Lord, thy Servant see,
   And graciously approve
   My Other Self, and next to Thee
   The Object of my Love:
   The Love wherewith my Heart runs o’re
   I dare to Thee present,
   Thine all-confirming Grace adore,
   And bless thine Instrument.

2. My Gifts and Comforts all, I know,
   From Thee alone descend;
   Thou only couldst on me bestow
   So true and kind a Friend:
   Cast in One Mould by Art Divine
   Our kindred Souls agree,
   And pair’d above, our Spirits join
   In sacred Harmony.

3. As sent to bless me from above
   Thy Creature I receive,
   To turn my utmost Strength of Love
   On Him for whom I live;
   To raise, and help my Weakness on,
   Th’ angelic Power is given:
   He comes in Human Form sent down,
   And guards my Soul to Heaven.

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26 Ori., “all-confirming” has “all-indulging” written above it as an alternative.
27 Wesley has written two indistinct alternatives to “kindred” above the line in shorthand. The alternative “blended” appears in MS Friendship II.
28 Ori., “A. M.” changed to “angelic Power.”
29 Ori., “Th.”
4. Thankful from thy blest Hands I take
   Th’ Inestimable Loan,
   And stand prepar’d to give him back,
   To render Thee Thine Own:
   I dare not to thy Creature cleave,
      Thy Creature, Lord, recall,
   Thy Glory still to Thee I give,
      That Thou art All in All.
X. To—“Spirit of Truth, descend.”

[1.] O Thou, whose Special Grace
    Did kindly condescend
    Of all the Faithful Race
    To single out a Friend,
    To shower on Him, above the rest,
    Thy choicest Favours down,
    And press him closest to thy Breast
    Thy best-beloved John.

2. I lift my Heart to Thee,
    To Thee who knowst the whole;
    Its dearest Amity
    For One Distinguish’d Soul,
    The soft unutterable Love
    Wherewith I One embrace,
    With gracious Smiles behold, approve,
    And turn it to thy Praise.

3. To Thee, and thy great Name
    My whole Affection turn,
    And let the hallow’d Flame
    For thy pure Glory burn;
    From all Idolatrous Excess
    From earthly Dross refine,
    And on my Heart31 impress
    The Character Divine.

30 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 7–8. Published in HSP (1749), 2:273–74.
31 Ori., “And on my sprinkled Heart,”
4. No more may I provoke
   My GOD to jealousy,
   Or to thy Creature look
   For what proceeds from Thee:
   Fountain of Life, and Joy, and Peace
   Thee may I always own,
   And find my Total Happiness
   In God, and GOD alone.

5. My all of Comfort here,
   Whoe’er the Grace transmit,
   To Thee may I refer,
   And worship at thy Feet;
   From Thee may I my Partner take,
   (That pretious Loan of Thine)
   And wait thy Call to give him back,
   And bless the Name Divine.

6. On Thee my GOD on Thee32
   Alone I would depend,
   And taste thy Love, and see
   Thy Image, in my Friend:
   My Bosom-Friend at thy Demand
   I promise to restore,
   But let us meet at thy Right-hand
   And praise Thee evermore.

32Ori., “my all” changed to “on Thee.”
XI. To—“Jesus, dear departed Lord.”

1. Holy, sanctifying Dove,  
   GOD of Truth, and GOD of Love,  
   On my feeble Soul descend,  
   On my dearest earthly Friend.  
   Come, and all our wants supply  
   Now the Cleansing Blood apply,  
   Now our little Faith increase,  
   Fill us now with perfect Peace.

2. Lead us, Thou, our constant Guide,  
   Witness, in our Hearts abide,  
   Earnest of the Joys to come,  
   Make our Souls thy Glorious Home:  
   Every precious Promise seal,  
   All the Depths of GOD reveal,  
   Keep us to that happy Day,  
   Bear us on thy Wings away.

3. If Thou didst the Grace impart,  
   Mad’st us of one Mind and Heart,  
   Still our friendly Souls unite,  
   Partners in the Realms of Light;  
   Let us there together soar,  
   Quickly met to part no more,  
   There our ravish’d Spirits join,  
   Mingled, lost in Love Divine.

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33 Charles sent this hymn to Sarah Gwynne with a letter dated December 23, 1748. Appears also in MS Friendship II, 22–23. Published in HSP (1749), 2:285.

34 Wesley suggests “Come, and fit us for the Sky” in the margin, in shorthand.

35 Ori., “Every Lead.”
XII.36

After Parting.

To the Tune of—“Thanks be to GOD alone.”

1. Thou Heavenly LOVE, from whom
All holy Passions come,
Hear my Faith’s availing Cry,
Now the peaceful Answer send,
Author of the Social Tie,
Giver of my Bosom-Friend.

2. My Bosom-Friend receive
Whom back to Thee I give,
Strengthen’d by thy Spirit’s Power,
Him I cheerfully resign,
Him I thankfully restore,
Leave Him in the Arms Divine.

3. Far from the Soul remov’d
Whom next to Thee I lov’d,
Still I bear Him on my Heart,
To thy tenderest Care commend:
Near us both if Now Thou art,
Be our Everlasting Friend.

4. With us thro’ Life abide,
And to thy Glory guide,
Give us, Lord, (if not below)
Give us soon to meet above,
All the Dignity to know,
All the Height of Heavenly Love.


37 Ori., “At.”
5. My longing Soul prepare
To meet my Brother there,
Him to see at thy Right-hand,
Fair in Loveliness Divine,
With Him in thy Sight to stand,
With Him in thy Praise to join.

6. For this Immortal Hope
I freely give Him up:
Only keep us to that Day—
Or if more I may request,
Let me first escape away,
Let me find an earlier Rest.

7. My Residue of Days
Add to his Lengthen’d Race:
Or if Mercy hath ordain’d
Both at once should take our flight,
Let us suddenly ascend,
Now obtain The Blissful Sight!

8. Now, or whene’er thy Will
Shall call us to the Hill:
Only give us Hearts to pray
Till thine Arms receive us home
Come, Redeemer, come away,
King of Saints, Triumphant come.

38 Ori., “Daughter.”
39 Wesley struck out his original text in three places within this stanza, rendering it illegible.
XIII.  
To—“Father, our hearts we lift.”

1. Father of Mercies, hear
   And send the Blessing down
In answer to the fervent Prayer
   Presented thro’ thy Son:
The Friend whom for His sake
   Thou hast on me bestow’d
Into thy Arms, thy Bosom, take,
   And fill his Soul with GOD.

2. Ev’n now his Heart inspire
   With Wisdom from above,
And pure Delight, and chast Desire,
   And everlasting Love:
   Him of thy Pardning Grace,
   This Moment certify,
And make him meet to see thy Face,
   And reign above the Sky.

3. Do for Him, dearest Lord,
   Above what I can say,
And keep to all thy Charms restor’d
   The Bride against That Day;
   To Him with Glory crown’d
   The highest Throne be given,
But let me too in Heaven be found,
   Found at his Feet in Heaven.

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Charles sent this hymn to Sarah Gwynne with a letter dated December 23, 1748. The first draft here contained numerous female references to the “friend,” which he then crossed out and changed to male. Appears also in MS Friendship II, 32–33. Published in HSP (1749), 2:291–92.

Ori., “Love.”
XIV.  
To—“Ah! lovely Appearance of Death.”

[1.] In Body remov’d from a Friend,  
But nearer in Heart than before,  
My infinite Wishes I send,  
My Prayers to the Heavenly Shore.  
Our Souls are in Jesus’s Hand,  
And let us in Jesus abide,  
Till both are admitted to Land,  
And seated aloft by his Side.

2. O GOD! what a Strength of Desire  
Hath He on his Creature bestow’d,  
That Both may together aspire  
And mount to the Vision of GOD!  
How strangely for Him do I care,  
In a Manner unknown!  
One Spirit already we are,  
In Time, and Eternity, One.

3. With exquisite Pleasure and Pain,  
With mystical Sympathy mov’d,  
His Burthen I gladly sustain,  
(My Brother in Jesus belov’d,  
The Joy, and Desire of my Eyes)  
I tremble opprest by his Fears,  
I eccho his Sighs with my Sighs;  
And answer his Tears with my Tears.  

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42 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 28–29; and MS Richmond, 17–18. Published posthumously in Unpublished Poetry, 1:256–57. Wesley’s first draft of this hymn contained several female references to the “friend,” which he then crossed out and changed to male.

43 Ori., “Conjoined in.”

44 Ori., “tenderest.”

45 Ori., “Daughter.”

46 Ori., “And all my Afflictions are Hers.”
4. So mingled his Soul is with mine,  
   With mine so united his Heart,  
   So link’d in Affection Divine,  
   No Creature is able to part.  
   Still47 closer in Death we shall cleave,  
   Recover our native Abode,  
   Our Fulness of Rapture receive,  
   And bath in an Ocean of GOD.

5. Thou GOD, in whose Love we agree,  
   Admit us into thy Embrace,  
   Thy Glory we languish to see,  
   To die for a Sight of thy Face.  
   Why, Lord, doth thy Chariot delay?  
   Make ready, and take the Bride home,  
   Come quickly, and bear us away,  
   Our Friend thro’ Eternity come.

47Ori., “In Still.”
XV.48

To—“All ye that pass by.”

1. O all-loving Lamb,
   I call on thy Name,
   Thy Grace for my Dearest Companion I claim;
   His Burthen I bear,
   And wrestle in Prayer,
   Till all thy Salvation in Him Thou declare.49

2. Thou knowst his Distress
   For the Sense of thy Grace,
   The Permanent Sight of thy Heavenly Face:
   His Sorrows controul,
   Speak Peace to his Soul,
   And pronounce Him accepted, and perfectly whole.

3. If sometimes He believes,
   And his Saviour receives,
   Yet again overwhelm’d at thy Absence he grieves:
   Allow his Request,
   Forever to rest,
   Forever to lean on his Jesus’s Breast.

4. His Suit is my own,
   Myself I bemoan,
   And doubly distrest for the Comforter groan,
   Till in us He reside,
   And we fully confide
   In the Blood which we feel every Moment applied.

48Appears also in MS Friendship II, 33–34. Published in HSP (1749), 2:292–93. Wesley’s first draft of this hymn contained several female references to the “friend,” which he then crossed out and changed to male.

49Wesley struck out his original second half of this line, rendering it illegible.
5. O woudst Thou appear
   This Moment to chear
   Thy Mourners, and banish our Trouble and Fear!
   In us, and in all
   For the Blessing who call,
   The Witness implant, and redeem from our Fall.

6. Thy Kingdom restore
   In the Spirit of Power,
   That prays, and exults, and gives thanks evermore;
   Thy Nature make known,
   And perfect in One,
   And receive us ALL GODS to a Share of thy Throne.
XVI.  

1. Jesus, to thy Preserving Care  
   My Chiepest Blessing I commend;  
   Receive, and in thy Bosom bear  
   The Soul whom Thou hast made my Friend.

2. My Friend! by Pitying Grace bestow’d  
   On me, a man of Woe and Strife;  
   To lighten my severest Load,  
   And sooth the Pain of irksom Life;

3. My former despe’rate Wound to heal,  
   To draw the dire invenom’d Dart,  
   The Sting of Injur’d Love expel,  
   And drive the Vipers from my Heart.

4. Thou, Lord, by Him, and thou alone  
   Hast forc’d me to let go my Pain,  
   Hast chear’d thy long-forgotten Son,  
   And turn’d me to my Rest again.

5. Thro’ Him Thou hast restor’d my Hope,  
   (The Hope I long had cast away)  
   Strangely reviv’d, and stir’d me up,  
   And forc’d my Heart again to pray.

6. And can I the dear Soul forget,  
   The choicest Instrument Divine,  
   And not my instant Suit repeat  
   That all his Heart may still be Thine.

50 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 30–32. Published in HSP (1749), 2:290–91. Wesley’s first draft of this hymn contained female references to the “friend,” which he then crossed out and changed to male.

51 Wesley originally had “Woe” and “Strife” reversed, but numbered them underneath the words to show the order shown above.
7. Must I from Him so much receive  
   (To Thee ascribing all the Praise)  
   Yet want the Blessedness To give,  
   To minister thy Heavenly Grace?

8. O that I might his Burden bear,  
   Imploy my All to do him good!  
   My utmost Strength, my total Care,  
   My Life, my latest Drop of Blood!

9. If I may be so greatly blest  
   Thy Blessings to my Friend to deal,  
   This Moment breathe into his Breast,  
   And fill him with Celestial Zeal.

10. Ten thousand Blessings on his head,  
    Ten thousand Goods in One impart,  
    Thy Spirit with thy Love be shed,  
    And dwell forever in his Heart!

52Wesley struck out his original first line and some shorthand, rendering it illegible.
XVII.\textsuperscript{53}
To—“Hearts of Stone, relent, relent.”

[1.] Author of the Peace unknown,
Lover of my Friend and me,
Who of Twain hast made us one,
One preserve us still in Thee,
All our heighten’d Blessings bless,
Crown our Hopes with full Success.

2. Center of our Hopes Thou art,
End of our inlarg’d Desires,
Stamp thine Image on our Heart,
Fill us Now with holy Fires,
Cemented by Love Divine
Seal our Souls forever Thine.

3. All our Works in Thee be wrought,
Level’d at one common Aim,
Every Word, and every Thought
Purge in the Refining Flame,
Lead us thro’ the Paths of Peace
On to perfect Holiness.

4. Let us both together rise
To thy glorious Life restor’d,
Here regain our Paradice,
Here prepare to meet our Lord,
Here injoy the Earnest given,
Travel hand in hand to Heaven.

\textsuperscript{53}Appears also in MS Friendship II, 19–20. Published in \textit{HSP} (1749), 2:282–83.
XVIII. 54
To—“Lamb of GOD, whose bleeding Love.”

[1.] Two are better far than One
For Counsel and for Fight:
How can One be warm alone,
Or serve his GOD aright?
Join we then our hearts and hands,
Haste my D[aughter], S[ister], F[riend],
Run the Way of his Commands,
And keep them to the End.

2. Woe to Him, 55 whose Spirits droop
To Him, who falls alone!
He has none to lift him up,
And help his Weakness on:
Happier We each other keep,
We each other’s Burthen bear:
Never need our Footsteps slip,
Upheld by Mutual Prayer.

3. Who of Twain hath made us One,
Maintains our Unity,
Jesus is the Corner-Stone
In whom we All agree;

54 Charles sent this hymn to Sarah Gwynne in a letter dated September 17, 1748. It appears also in MS Friendship II, 44–45. Published in HSP (1749), 2:309–310. A handy comparison of variants between the various appearances is available in Representative Verse, 202–203.

55 Ori., “to the Him.”
Servants of our Common Lord,
    Sweetly of one Heart and Mind,
Who can break a Threefold Cord,
    Or part whom GOD hath join’d?

4. Breaths as in us Both One Soul,
    When most distinct in Place,
Interposing Oceans roll
    Nor hinder our Embrace:
Each as on his Mountain stands,
    Reaching Hearts across the Flood,
Join our Hearts, if not our Hands,
    And sing the Pardning GOD.

5. O that All with us might prove
    The Fellowship of Saints!
Find supplied in Jesus Love
    What every Member wants:
Gain we our high Calling’s Prize,
    Feel our Sins in Christ forgiven,
Rise, to all his Image rise,
    And meet our Head in Heaven.
Gloria Patri. 56
To—“Praise the Lord, who reigns above!”

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Mysterious One and Three,
We with thy Celestial Host
Presume to worship Thee:
Still Thyself to Thee we give,
   Who Thyself to Us hast given;
Praise, and Power, and Love receive
   From All in Earth in Heaven.

56Published in HSP (1749), 2:310.
XIX.  
To—“Away with our Fears.”

1. Come let us arise,  
   And press to the Prize,  
   The Summons obey,  
   My Friend, my Beloved, and hasten away;  
   The Master of all  
   For our Service doth call,  
   And deigns to approve  
   With Smiles of Acceptance our Labour of Love.

2. We only, who bear  
   His Burthen, declare58  
   How easy his Yoke,  
   While to Love and Good Works we each other provoke:  
   By Word and by Deed  
   The Bodies in need,  
   The Souls to relieve,  
   And freely as Jesus hath given to give.

[3.]59 Then let us attend  
   Our Heavenly Friend  
   In his Members distrest,  
   With Want, or Affliction, or Sickness opprest:60  
   The Prisoner relieve,  
   The Stranger receive,  
   Supply all their Wants,  
   And spend and be spent in assisting his Saints.

57 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 16–17. Published in *HSP* (1749), 2:280–81.
58 Wesley suggests in shorthand in the margin a revision of these first two lines that is adopted in MS Friendship II: “His burthen who bear / We alone can declare.”
59 Ori., “4.”
60 Ori., “die.”
4. Thus while we bestow  
   Our Moments below,  
   Ourselves we forsake,  
And Refuge in Jesus’s Righteousness take,  
   His Passion alone  
   THE FOUNDATION we own,  
   And Pardon we claim,  
And Eternal Salvation in Jesus’s Name.
XX. 
To—“Jesus, let thy Pitying Eye.”

[1.] Jesus, if from Thee I find
    This sudden Call to pray,
    Suffer not my feeble mind
    To cast the Grace away:
    Least I quickly faint and droop
    Heartless, helpless, and alone,
    Stir my Absent Partner up,
    And bring Him to the Throne.

2. Wake in Him the Strong Desire
    Which now for Thee I feel,
    Touch our Lips with hallow’d Fire,
    Our Breasts with Heavenly Zeal,
    Let us for thy Glory pant,
    And follow on thy Face to see,
    Always pray, and never faint,
    Till both are lost in Thee.

3. See us now as side by side
    Before thy Mercy-seat,
    Let us feel thy Blood applied,
    And kiss thy wounded Feet,
    Let our Tears incessant flow
    Till Both the Heigth of Mercy prove,
Till the Length and Breadth we know,
   And Depth of Perfect Love.

4. O that Both might soon arise
   By Perfect Love prepar’d,
   Meet the Bridegroom in the Skies,
   And find our full Reward:
   Touching This we Both agree
   To ask the Father in thy Name
   Father, make us fit to see
   The Marriage of the Lamb.

5. Send The Witness from above,
   The Spirit of thy Son,
   Seal of thy Eternal Love,
   And Pledge of Joys unknown:
   Let Him in our Hearts reside,
   Till Jesus comes in Person down—
   JESUS COMES—to fetch his Bride,
   And crown us with His Crown!

62 Ori., “Pardning.”
63 Ori., “meet.”
XXI. 64

To the Tune of—“O! where am I now?”

[1.] O Thou that on All
The Wretched dost call,
To come, and be happy in Thee,
Thy Promise make good,
And sprinkle with Blood
The Heart of my Partner and me.

2. The Blessing we want
Thou art ready to grant,
More ready than We to request:
The Guilty forgive,
The Weary receive
In the Arms of thy Mercy to rest.

3. That Taste of thy Grace,
That Sight of thy Face
To thy sorrowing Servants restore,
Now, Saviour return,
And leave us to mourn,
And lament for thy Absence no more.

4. Our Jesus appear
To thy Followers here,
Who commune of Thee, and are sad;
Thy Spirit afford
To unfold the good Word,
And our Hearts, they again shall be glad.

64 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 35–36. Published in HSP (1749), 2:293–94.
5. The Promise apply, 
   And whisper \[iv\]Tis I 
   “Who your Sins and your Sorrows have born, 
   “I have pacified GOD, 
   “I have bought you with Blood, 
   “To your Merciful Owner return!\[iv\]

6. We come at thy Call 
   Thou Redeemer of all 
   By the Power of thy Rising we rise, 
   Thro’ a Paradise led 
   With Joy on our head 
   We return to our Place in the Skies.
XXII. 65
To—“Ah! Sister, in Jesus adieu!” 66

1. Peace, sorrowful Heart, or apply
   To Christ for the Certain Relief!
He marks with a Merciful Eye
   The Cause of thy Trouble and Grief:
The Soul, for whose Burthen I groan,
   He tenderly pities, and loves,
And counts his Afflictions his own,
   And feels, till his Cross He removes.

2. If now in Lamenting for GOD
   His innocent Life He employ,
His Mercy shall scatter the Cloud,
   And turn all his Anguish to Joy:
He soon shall observe his Return,
   Forgetting his Sorrows and Fears,
For Joy that a Saviour is born,
   For Joy that the Saviour is His. 67

3. O Lover of Sinners distrest,
   If near the Afflicted Thou art,
Command the rough Ocean to rest,
   And whisper a Calm to his Heart:
The Mercy Thou waitest to shew
   O might He this Moment obtain,
His Pardon assuredly know,
   His Eden eternally gain!

65 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 41–42; and MS Richmond, 18–19. Published posthumously in Unpublished Poetry, 1:258. Wesley’s first draft of this hymn contained female references to the “friend,” which he then crossed out and changed to male.

66 Ori., “To—Fond Eecho.”

67 Wesley crossed out “Hers” but forgot to add “His” in his rewrite, to change the hymn to male references to the “friend.” It has been corrected above to agree with Wesley’s intent.
XXIII. To—“Christ, my Life, my Heavenly Treasure.”

[1.] Rais’d to day above my Sorrow,
    Happy Now
    Shall I bow
    Burthen’d for Tomorrow?

2. Shall I, anxiously forecasting,
    Still destroy
    My own Joy,
    Doubtful of its lasting?

3. Rather let me snatch th’ Occasion,
    In the Friend
    GOD doth send
    Taste His Consolation;

4. Taste in This
    Heavenly Bliss,
    Bliss that lasts forever!

5. In the Stream I drink the Fountain
    Drink, and haste
    To the Feast
    On that Heavenly Mountain.

6. With the Wings of Faith and Prayer,

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68 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 42–43. Published in HSP (1749), 2:308–309.

69 Ori., “(While I at his Hands received glee).” Wesley does not add a new line here, and there are two options in its other appearances. MS Friendship II, 42–43, shows this line as: “I, the happy glad Receiver.” HSP (1749), 2:308–309 shows this line as: “(From his hands a glad receiver).”

70 Ori., “There we fix our Place of Meeting.” Wesley reused this line to begin stanza 7.
Fly we on
To the Throne,
To the Saviour there!

7. There we fix our Place of Meeting,
   Gladly come
   To our Home,
   Songs of Praise repeating.

8. Careless which shall first pass over,
   Since we know
   Both shall go,
   Both the Port recover.

9. Both shall reach the Happy Shore,
   Quickly meet
   At thy Seat,
   Meet, and part no more.

10. Who shall there our Spirits sever?
    Friends beneath—
    Friends in Death—
    Friends we live forever.
XXIV. 71
To the Tune of—“How happy are They.”

1. Come let us ascend,
   My Companion and Friend,
   To a Taste of the Banquet above,
   If thy Heart is as mine,
   If for Jesus it pine,
   Come up into the Chariot of Love.

2. Who in Jesus confide,
   We are bold to outride
   The Storms of Affliction beneath,
   With the Prophet we soar
   To that Heavenly Shore,
   And outfly all the Arrows of Death.

3. By Faith we are come
   To our Permanent Home,
   By Hope the Enjoyment improve,
   By Love we still rise,
   And look down on the Skies;
   For the Heaven of Heavens is LOVE.

4. Who on Earth can conceive
   How happy we live
   In the City of GOD, the great King!
   What a Consort of Praise,
   When our Jesus’s Grace
   The whole Heavenly Company sing!

71 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 45–47. Published in HSP (1749), 2:313–14. Wesley has a vertical line running through the entire hymn in this manuscript.
5. What a Rapturous Song,
   When the glorified Throng
   In the Spirit of Harmony join!
   Join all the glad Quires
   Hearts, Voices, and Lyres,
   And the Burthen is Mercy Divine.

6. Hallelujah, they cry,
   To the King of the Sky,
   To the great Everlasting I AM!
   To the Lamb that was slain,
   And liveth again,
   Hallelujah to GOD and the Lamb!

7. The Lamb on the Throne
   Lo! He dwells with His own,
   And to Rivers of Pleasure He leads,
   With his Mercy’s full Blaze,
   With the Sight of his Face,
   Our Beatified Spirits He feeds.

8. Our Foreheads proclaim
   His Ineffable Name,
   Our Bodies his Glory display,
   A Day without Night
   We feast in his Sight,
   And Eternity seems as a Day!
XXV.72

To—

1. GOD, of all good Gifts the Donor,
   GOD, whose Mercies never end,
Thee with Lips and Heart I honour,
   Bless Thee for my Darling Friend,
Thankful from thy hands receiving,73
   Ever74 longing to fulfil
All thy wise Design in giving,75
   All my Father’s welcome Will.

2. If for This th’ Uniting Spirit
   Hath on me his Burthen laid,
Give me joyfully to bear it,
   Him with all my Prayers to aid:
Fill my Heart with Supplication,
   Let in me thy Bowels move,
Softness of Divine Compassion,
   Tenderness of Heavenly Love.

3. Sanctify our Mutual Care,
   More and more let it increase
Strengthen us hereby to share
   Every Tempted Soul’s Distress,
Stir us up to Toil unceasing,
   Lay on Both the Common Load,
Make our Love a General Blessing,
   Turn it all to Sion’s Good.

72Appears also in MS Friendship II, 17–19. Published in HSP (1749), 2:281–82. Wesley’s first draft of this hymn contained female references to the “friend,” which he then crossed out and changed to male.
73Ori., “receive her.”
74Ori., “Asking.”
75Ori., “All th’ Intention of the Giver.”
4. While with just Peculiar Kindness
    We Each Other’s Souls embrace,
Save us from that Fatal Blindness,
    Dotage of our Fallen Race;
From the Mean Contracting Passion
    Keep us pure, and unconfin’d,
Raise our Generous Inclination,
    Fix our Love on all Mankind.

5. As a wide-extended River
    Let thy Love our Hearts oreflow,
Purest Love that lasts forever,
    Reaching every Soul below;
Love that doth with free Election
    Some beyond the Rest approve
Bless us with thy whole Affection,
    Special, Universal Love.

76Ori., “above.”
XXVI. 77
To the Tune—“Ye Servants of GOD.”

[1.] How happy the Pair
   Whom Jesus unites
   In Friendship to share
   Angelic Delights,
   Whose chast Conversation
   Is coupled with Fear,
   Whose sure Expectation
   Is Holiness here.

2. My Jesus, my Lord,
   Thy Grace I commend,
   So kind to afford
   My Weakness a Friend!
   Thy only good pleasure
   On Me hath bestow’d
   An Heavenly Treasure,
   A Servant of GOD.

3. Appointed by Thee,
   We meet in thy Name,
   And meekly agree
   To follow the Lamb,
   To track thy Example,
   The World to disdain,
   And constantly trample
   On Pleasure and Pain.

77 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 20–22. Published in HSP (1749), 2:283–84. Wesley has a vertical line running through the hymn in this manuscript.
4. Rejoicing in Hope
   We humbly go on,
   And daily take up
     The Pledge of our Crown,
   In Doing, and Bearing
     The Will of our Lord,
   We still are preparing
     To meet our Reward.

5. The Heavenly Prize
   Is ever in view,
   Till Both shall arise
     Created anew,
   That First Resurrection
     We pant to attain,
   Go on to Perfection,
     And suffer to reign.

6. O Jesus, appear,
   No longer delay,
   To sanctify78 here,
     And bear us away:
   The End of our Meeting
     On Earth let us see,
   Eternally sitting
     In Glory with Thee.

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78Ori., “perfect us.”
XXVII. To the Tune—“Head of thy Church Triumphant.”

1. O that the Flaming Chariot
   By Grace peculiar given,
   Might now descend,
   And wrap my Friend,
   My Friend, and me to Heaven!
   Above this gloomy Region,
   This Vale of Sin and Sadness,
   We’d soar away
   To endless Day,
   And everlasting Gladness.

2. Head of thy Church Triumphant,
   We long to see thy Glory,
   With Joy to rise
   Beyond the Skies
   Where all thy Hosts adore thee.
   We look for thy Appearing
   With vehement Expectation,
   And join The Groan
   Which from Thine Own
   Runs thro’ the whole Creation.

79 Appears also in MS Friendship II, 47–49. Published in HSP (1749), 2:311–12.
3. O might we Now behold Thee
   In radiant Clouds descending,
       Sublime upon
       The great white Throne
   With all thy Hosts attending!
Come in thy glorious Kingdom,
   Thou worthy Judge Eternal,
       And seat us by
       Thy Side\textsuperscript{80} to try
   The World and\textsuperscript{81} Host Infernal.

4. O woudst Thou now receive us
   The Heirs of full Salvation
       To our Reward,
       For Us prepar’d
   Before the World’s Foundation!
Now, Lord, assign his Mansion,
   And Crown to Each Believer,
       And let us rest
   In Thee possest
Of Joy that blooms forever!

\textsuperscript{80}Ori., “Seat.”
\textsuperscript{81}Ori., “And doom the” changed to “The World and.”