

Hymns for Children (1763)¹

[Baker list, #258]

Editorial Introduction:

When John Wesley visited the German Moravians at Herrnhut, he made note of an item (#12) in their constitution: “Our little children we instruct chiefly by hymns; whereby we find the most important truths most successfully insinuated into their minds” (see his *Journal*, 11–14 Aug. 1738). Encouraged by this precedent, John Wesley published a short volume of *Hymns for Children* (1747), including nine hymns drawn from *HSP* (1740), *CPH* (1741), and *HSP* (1742).

Seven of the hymns included by John Wesley in *Hymns for Children* (1743) were written by his brother Charles, showing their shared interest in hymns for children. Indeed, five of the hymns came from a set of seven to which Charles assigned that name in *HSP* (1742), 194–202. Similar hymns are scattered through Charles’s manuscript collections of verse from the early 1740s on. Moreover, he had considered gathering these into a separate volume from at least 1750. On January 29 of that year he wrote to Mrs. Mary Jones, of Fonmon Castle, Wales, that he was preparing a hymn-book for the students at Kingswood school. His plans for publishing this hymn-book were apparently delayed. A decade later, in a letter to his wife dated January 5, 1760, Charles again announced his intention to publish his “hymns for children” (almost certainly now gathered into a manuscript volume). But once again he was delayed. He developed a serious case of gout, from which he would take two years to recover. He devoted this time to *Scripture Hymns* (1762). Then, in early 1763, he finally published his own *Hymns for Children*.

This collection gathered together several different types of verse prepared by Charles over the two decades. The first thirty hymns follow closely the outline of the catechism *Instructions for Children*, which John Wesley published in 1745 (drawing on the work of Claude Fleury & Pierre Poiret). It is hard to imagine a more obvious use of the form of hymns to “insinuate the most important truths” into the minds of children! Moving on, in hymns 40–50 we surely encounter the core of the hymn-book that Charles was preparing in 1750 for the students at Kingswood School. The final section, “Hymns for the Youngest,” includes the only items that had been published previously, from the set of hymns for children in *HSP* (1742)—shown in **blue font** in the Table of Contents below.

Hymns for Children (1763) went through four editions over two decades. In late 1787 an abridged form was published. Given Charles’s declining health, the abridgment was surely done by John Wesley, who added a preface to a 1790 reprint. Cf. *Hymns for Children* (1787) in the section of this website devoted to John Wesley’s hymn collections.

Editions:

[Charles Wesley.] *Hymns for Children*. Bristol: Farley, 1763.

2nd Bristol: Pine, 1768. [adds to title: *and Those of Riper Years*]

3rd London: Hawes, 1778. [adds to title: *and Those of Riper Years*]

4th London: Paramore, 1784. [adds to title: *and Those of Riper Years*]

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**HYMNS
FOR
CHILDREN.**

**Hymn 1.
Of God.**

- 1 Hail Father, Son, and Holy-Ghost,
One God in Persons Three,
Of thee we make our early boast,
Our songs we make of thee.
- 2 Thou neither canst be felt, or seen,
Thou art a Spirit pure,
Who from eternity hast been,
And always shalt endure.
- 3 Present alike in every place
Thy Godhead we adore,
Beyond the bounds of time and space
Thou dwell'st for evermore.
- 4 In wisdom infinite thou art,
Thine eye doth all things see,
And every thought of every heart
Is fully known to thee.

- 5 Whate'er thou wilt, in earth below
 Thou dost, in heaven above:
But chiefly we rejoice to know
 Th' Almighty God is LOVE.
- 6 Thou lov'st whate'er thy hands have made;
 Thy goodness we rehearse
In shining characters displayed
 Throughout our universe.
- 7 Mercy, and love, and endless grace
 O'er all thy works doth reign:
But mostly thou delight'st to bless
 Thy fav'rite creature, man.
- 8 Wherefore let every creature give
 To thee the praise designed;
But chiefly, Lord, the thanks receive,
 The hearts of all mankind.

Hymn 2.
Of the Creation and Fall of Man.

- 1 O all-creating God,
 At whose supreme decree
Our body rose, a breathing clod,
 Our soul sprang forth from thee;
 For this thou hast designed,
 And formed us man for this,
To know, and love thyself, and find
 In thee our endless bliss.
- 2 Thou the first happy pair
 In paradise didst place,
To reap the joys and pleasures there,
 And sing the giver's praise:

Of all the trees but one
Forbidden was, to prove
Their due regard to God alone,
Their firm obedient love.

3 But O they rashly took
 Of the forbidden tree,
Thine easy, sole commandment broke,
 And sinned, and fell from thee:
 Of their wide-spreading fault
 The sad effects we find;
Anguish, and sin, and death it brought
 On us, and all mankind.

4 Infected by their stain
 In sin we all are born,
And liable to grief and pain,
 Till we to dust return:
 To every sin inclined,
 Selfish we are, and proud,
Our will perverse, our carnal mind
 Is enmity to God.

5 Dead to the things above,
 While in our lost estate,
Children of wrath, the world we love,
 And thee by nature hate;
 In pining griefs and cares
 We spend our wretched breath,
And die the miserable heirs
 Of everlasting death.

Hymn 3.
Of the Redemption of Man.

1 Saviour from sin, from death, from hell
 Thee, Jesus Christ, with joy we own,
The man who loved our souls so well,
 The Father's everlasting Son.

- 2 Thou for our sake a man wast made,
 The burden of a virgin's womb,
Didst live, and suffer in our stead,
 And rise triumphant from the tomb.
- 3 What hath thy death for sinners gained?
 What hath thy life to sinners given?
For every soul of man obtained?
 Pardon, and holiness, and heaven.
- 4 Soon as our broken hearts repent,
 Soon as I do in thee believe,
The power into my soul is sent,
 And then my pardon I receive.

Hymn 4.
The Same [Of the Redemption of Man].

- 1 O could I now to God return
 With all sincerity of grief,
My sinfulness, and folly mourn,
 My guilt, and helpless unbelief!
- 2 O could I now the faith obtain
 That evidence of things unseen,
And know the Lamb for sinners slain,
 For me, the sinfullest of men!
- 3 Come, Holy-Ghost, the grace impart,
 Reveal the dying deity,
And feelingly convince my heart
 He loved, and gave himself for me.
- 4 The pardon on my conscience seal,
 Inspire the sense of sin forgiven,
And all my newborn soul shall feel
 That holiness is present heaven.

Hymn 5.
The Same [Of the Redemption of Man].

- 1 Happy the man, who Jesus knows,
 By holy faith to Jesus joined!
 His pure believing heart o'erflows
 With love to God, and all mankind.

- 2 Redeemed from all iniquity,
 From every evil work and word,
 From every sinful temper free,
 He lives devoted to his Lord.

- 3 Little, and vile in his own eyes,
 All good he gives to God alone:
 Saved from self-will he ever cries
 Lord, not my will, but thine, be done.

- 4 Saved from the love of all below,
 Heavenward his every wish aspires;
 Nothing but Christ resolved to know,
 God, only God, his heart desires.

- 5 Saved from all evil words, he speaks
 For God, and ministers his grace;
 Saved from all evil deeds, he seeks
 In all t' advance his Maker's praise.

- 6 Whether he eats, in faith, or drinks,
 He spreads his Maker's praise abroad,
 Whether he acts, or speaks, or thinks,
 He only aims t' exalt his God.

Hymn 6.
Of the Means of Grace.

- 1 God of all-alluring grace,
Thee through Jesus Christ we praise,
Father, in thy Spirit's power,
Thee we for thy grace adore.
- 2 Sent in Jesu's mighty name,
Grace with God from heaven came,
Grace on all mankind bestowed,
Grace, the life and power of God.
- 3 Us, whoe'er the gift receive,
It enables to believe,
Helps our soul's infirmity
Still to live, and die with thee.
- 4 In the means thou hast enjoined,
All who seek the grace shall find,
In the prayer, the fast, the word,
In the supper of their Lord.
- 5 Thus the saints of ancient days
Waited, and obtained thy grace,
Drank the blood by Jesus shed,
Daily on his body fed.
- 6 Thus the whole assembly joined
Jesus in the midst to find,
Prayer presenting to the skies,
Morn and evening sacrifice.
- 7 Jointly praying, and apart,
Each to thee poured out his heart,
Solemnly thy grace implored,
Still continued in the word:

- 8 Searched the scriptures day and night,
(All their comfort, and delight
There to catch thy Spirit's power)
Heard, and read, and lived them o'er.
- 9 Twice a week they fasted then,
Purest of the sons of men,
Choicest vessels of thy grace,
Patterns to the faithful race.
- 10 Still to us they speak, though dead,
Bid us in their footsteps tread,
Bid us never dare remove
From the channels of thy love.
- 11 Never will we hence depart,
'Till our all in all thou art,
'Till from outward means we fly,
'Till we on thy bosom die.

Hymn 7.
Of Hell.

- 1 Wretched souls, who live in sin,
Who their Lord by deeds deny!
Tophet yawns to take them in,
Soon as their frail bodies die,
They their due reward shall feel,
Dreadfully thrust down to hell.
- 2 Dark and bottomless the pit
Which on them its mouth shall close:
Never shall they 'scape from it:
There they shall in endless woes
Weep, and wail, and gnash their teeth,
Die an everlasting death.

- 3 There their tortured bodies lie,
 Scorched by the consuming fire,
There their souls in torments cry,
 Racked with pride and fierce desire;
Fear, and grief their spirits tear,
Rage, and envy, and despair.
- 4 Every part its curse sustains,
 Every faculty of soul,
All the power of hellish pains
 Joins to make their measure full,
Fiends, themselves, and conscience join,
Heightened all by wrath divine.
- 5 There they lie, alas, how long!
 Never can they hope release;
Not a drop to cool their tongue,
 Not an hour, a moment's ease;
Damned they are, and still shall be,
Damned to all eternity!

**Hymn 8.
Of Heaven.**

- 1 Where shall true believers go,
 When from the flesh they fly?
Glorious joys ordained to know
 They mount above the sky,
To that bright celestial place;
 There they shall in raptures live
More than tongue can e'er express,
 Or heart can e'er conceive.
- 2 When they once are entered there,
 Their mourning days are o'er,
Pain, and sin, and want, and care,
 And sighing is no more:

Subject then to no decay
Heavenly bodies they put on,
Swifter than the lightning's ray,
And brighter than the sun.

3 But their greatest happiness,
Their highest joy, shall be
God their Saviour to possess,
To know, and love, and see:
With that beatific sight
Glorious ecstasy is given,
This is their supreme delight,
And makes an heaven of heaven.

4 Him beholding face to face,
To him they glory give,
Bless his name, and sing his praise,
As long as God shall live,
While eternal ages roll,
Thus employed in heaven they are:
Lord, receive my happy soul
With all thy servants there!

Hymn 9.

1 Teacher, guide of young beginners,
Let a child approach to thee,
Thee, who cam'st to ransom sinners,
Thee, who diedst to ransom me:
Into thy protection take me,
Full of goodness as thou art,
After thy own image make me,
Make me after thy own heart.

2 Exercise the potter's power
Over this unshapen clay:
Call me in the morning hour,
Teach my simpleness the way:

With a tender awe inspire,
That I never more may rove;
The faint spark of good desire
Blow into a flame of love.

- 3 O my everlasting lover,
Thee that I may love again,
To mine inmost soul discover
All thy dying love for man;
By thy Spirit's inspiration
Make thy depths of mercy known,
Seal the heir of sure salvation,
Then translate me to thy throne.

Hymn 10.

- 1 Almighty God, to thee I cry,
Assist a child's infirmity,
Nor let me with my lips draw nigh,
While my heart wanders far from thee.
- 2 Ah, never let me speak a word,
But what with all my soul I mean,
Or lie to thee, thou glorious Lord,
By whom my every thought is seen.
- 3 With what submissive lowliness
Shall I approach thy gracious throne?
How can I hope by words to please,
To please a God I have not known?
- 4 I know not what to do, or say,
'Till I thy blessed Spirit receive,
And Jesus teaches me to pray,
And Jesus teaches me to live.

Hymn 11.

- 1 Glorious God, accept an² heart
 That pants to sing thy praise:
 Thou without beginning art,
 And without end of days;
 Thou, a Spirit invisible,
 Dost to none thy fulness show,
 None thy majesty can tell,
 Or all thy Godhead know.

- 2 All thine attributes we own,
 Thy wisdom, power, and might;
 Happy in thyself alone,
 In goodness infinite,
 Thou thy goodness hast displayed,
 On thine every work impressed,
 Lov'st whate'er thy hands have made,
 But man thou lov'st the best.

- 3 Willing thou, that all should know
 Thy saving truth, and live,
 Dost to each or bliss or woe
 With strictest justice give:
 Thou with perfect righteousness
 Renderest every man his due,
 Faithful in thy promises,
 And in thy threat'nings too.

- 4 Thou art merciful to all
 Who truly turn to thee,
 Hear me then for pardon call,
 And show thy grace to me,
 Me by mercy reconciled,
 Me for Jesu's sake forgiven,
 Me receive, thy fav'rite child,
 To sing thy praise in heaven.

²“An” changed to “a” in 4th edn. (1784).

Hymn 12.

- 1 O thou whom none hath seen or known,
But he that in thy bosom lies,
Thine heavenly best-beloved Son,
Creator both of earth and skies,
He only knows, and can explain
Thy Godhead to the sons of men.
- 2 Not all the things we read or hear
Can thee unto our souls reveal,
Not all the art of man declare;
Thy Spirit must the secret tell,
Into our deepest darkness shine,
And manifest the things divine.
- 3 Father of everlasting grace,
The Spirit of thy Son impart,
To us who humbly seek thy face,
Who pray for light with all our heart,
And long to know thy blessed will,
And all thy counsel to fulfil.

Hymn 13.

- 1 Thou, O God, art good alone,
(Praise to thee alone be given)
Truly issues from thy throne
All the good in earth and heaven,
Good if e'er in man we see,
Lord, it all proceeds from thee.
- 2 Unassisted by thy grace
We can only evil do,
Wretched is the human race,
Wretched more than words can show,
Till thy blessing from above
Tells our hearts that God is love.

Hymn 14.

- 1 All power to save, O Lord, is thine,
Receive this ruined soul of mine,
Upon thy mercy cast;
Do with me what, and as thou wilt,
But th'roughly purge away my guilt,
And save my soul at last.
- 2 What I into thy hands commend,
Keep, and continue to defend,
In humble faith I pray,
Evil and danger turn aside,
And me, and my companions hide
Against that awful day.
- 3 Then, Lord, by thine almighty power
Our bodies and our souls restore,
Committed to thy care,
Our hidden life with Christ reveal,
And lift us to thy heavenly hill,
To see thy glory there.

Hymn 15.

- 1 Maker, Saviour of mankind,
Who hast on me bestowed
An immortal soul, designed
To be the house of God,
Come, and now reside in me,
Never, never to remove,
Make me just, and good like thee,
And full of power and love.
- 2 Bid me in thine image rise
A saint, a creature new,
True, and merciful, and wise,
And pure, and happy too:

This thy primitive design,
That I should in thee be blest,
Should within the arms divine
Forever ever rest.

- 3 Let thy will on me be done,
Fulfil my heart's desire,
Thee to know, and love alone,
And rise in raptures³ higher,
Thee descending on a cloud
When with ravished eyes I see,
Then I shall be filled with God
To all eternity.

Hymn 16.

- 1 Author, and end of my desires,
From whom my every blessing flowed,
I *would* whate'er thy will requires;
Whate'er thy will requires is good.
- 2 I would (but thou must give the power)
From all beside my will avert,
Nor ever grieve thy goodness more,
Nor ever follow my own heart.
- 3 Spring of all good thy will I own,
The fountain of all evil mine;
Father, let mine no more be done,
Let all obey the will divine.
- 4 We came into the world to do
The will of him that placed us here,
And who their own desires pursue,
Can never in thy sight appear.
- 5 What then shall of our souls become
Used our own pleasures to fulfil?
Eternal death must be the doom
Of all that follow their own will.

³“Raptures” changed to “rapture” in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

- 6 But O, to thee for help we cry,
Save, or we sink into the pit,
Ourselves assist us to deny,
And to thy blessed will submit.
- 7 Father, for Jesu's sake alone,
Thine all sufficient grace impart,
Save us, in honour of thy Son,
And Godward turn the selfish heart.
- 8 So shall we every moment feel,
(When thou the Holy-Ghost hast given)
To do our cursed will, is hell,
To do thy blessed will, is heaven.

Hymn 17.

- 1 God is goodness, wisdom, power,
Love him, praise him evermore,
Let us strive, and never cease,
Him in every thing to please.
- 2 Born for this intent we are
Our Creator to declare,
God to love, and serve, and praise,
God to honour all our days.
- 3 Lift we then our hearts to God,
Like the church above employed,
Day and night the angels sing
Praises to their heavenly King.
- 4 Him that sitteth on the throne,
Him that died for man t' atone,
God, and the triumphant Lamb,
They eternally proclaim.
- 5 Let us then to God aspire,
Rivals of the heavenly choir;
Cherubim⁴ our faces wear,
Let us their enjoyments share.

⁴Ori., "Cheribims"; corrected in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

- 6 Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Live by heaven and earth adored,
Filled with thee let all things cry,
Glory be to God most high!

Hymn 18.

- 1 Happy man whom God doth aid!
God our soul, and body made,
God on us in gracious showers,
Blessings every moment pours;
Compasses with angel-bands,
Bids them bear us in their hands:
Parents, friends, 'twas God bestowed,
Life, and all descends from God.
- 2 He this flowery carpet spread,
Made the earth on which we tread,
God refreshes in the air,
Covers with the clothes we wear,
Feeds us in the food we eat,
Cheers us by the light and heat,
Makes the sun on us to shine;
All our blessings are divine.
- 3 Give him then, and always give
Thanks for all that we receive:
Man we for his kindness love,
How much more our God above?
Worthy thou, our heavenly Lord,
To be honoured, and adored,
God of all-creating grace,
Take the everlasting praise.

Hymn 19.

- 1 But what are all the blessings, Lord,
Which our frail bodies prove,
Unless thou to our souls afford
The happiness of love?

- 2 Our souls (we above all desire)
Our souls vouchsafe to bless,
And into our young hearts inspire
The knowledge of thy grace.
- 3 We lack the wisdom from on high,
For love on thee we call,
Who never canst thyself deny,
But giv'st thyself to all.
- 4 Then let us with thy gifts receive
The giver from above,
And never sin, and never grieve
The God whom once we love.

Hymn 20.

- 1 Father, to thee thine own we give,
Thy wisdom, power, and goodness praise,
Thy benefits with thanks receive,
And humbly sue for pard'ning grace,
Thy mercy and thy strength implore
To keep us, that we sin no more.
- 2 We pray, but with our lips alone,
'Till thou infuse the pure desire,
'Till thou to flesh convert the stone,
The gracious principle inspire,
The supplicating spirit impart,
And bless us with a praying heart.

Hymn 21.

- 1 What matters it to pray
To God in Jesu's name,
Unless we feel the words we say,
And hang upon the Lamb?
The Lamb for sinners slain,
If strangers to his blood,
We only take his name in vain,
And mock th' Almighty God.

- 2 Father of mercies, show
 What we by nature were,
Children of wrath, and doomed below
 Eternal pains to bear:
 When Jesus Christ thy Son
 For helpless sinners died,
That all who trust in him alone,
 May know thee pacified.
- 3 In him if we believe,
 Thy mercies we partake,
Who all good things art pleased to give
 To man for Jesu's sake:
 We durst not ask thine aid,
 Or hope t' obtain thy love,
But that his blood for us was shed,
 And speaks for us above.
- 4 Wherefore to thee we cry,
 Through thy beloved Son,
And fix on him our steadfast eye
 Who stands before thy throne;
 The good desires we feel,
 From him, we own, they came,
And them, according to thy will,
 Present in Jesu's name.
- 5 Our prayers to his unite,
 And as thy Son's receive,
And give, who ask in Jesu's right,
 To us thy blessing give,
 Whate'er we thus desire,
 The suit of Jesus is:
Hear then, and raise thy glory higher,
 By our eternal bliss.

Hymn 22.

- 1 Thou, my God, art good and wise,
 And infinite in power,
Thee let all in earth and skies
 Eternally adore:

Give me thy converting grace,
That I may obedient prove,
Serve my Maker all my days,
And my Redeemer love.

2 For my life, and clothes, and food,
And every comfort here,
Thee, my most indulgent God,
I thank with heart sincere,
For the blessings numberless,
Which thou hast already given,
For my smallest spark of grace,
And for my hope of heaven.

3 Gracious God, my sins forgive,
And thy good Spirit impart,
Then I shall in thee believe
With all my loving heart,
Always unto Jesus look,
Him in heavenly glory see,
Who my cause hath undertook,
And ever prays for me.

4 Grace in answer to his prayer,
And every grace bestow,
That I may with zealous care
Perform thy will below,
Rooted in humility,
Still in every state resigned,
Plant, Almighty Lord, in me
A meek and lowly mind.

5 Poor, and vile in my own eyes,
With self-abasing shame,
Still I would myself despise,
And magnify thy name:
Thee let every creature bless,
Praise to God alone be given;
God alone deserves the praise
Of all in earth and heaven.

Hymn 23.

- 1 How ignorant the human mind,
How totally shut up and blind,
 Through our first parents' fall!
Strangers to God by nature, we
His things can neither know nor see,
 But darkness covers all.
- 2 God only can our sight restore,
And give us by his Spirit's power
 Spiritual things to know,
His wisdom, majesty, and love
To view in all his works above,
 And all his works below.
- 3 Who good pursue, and evil fly,
To them he grants the seeing eye,
 To them himself displays:
Show then (for I thy will would do)
To me, great God, vouchsafe to show
 The wonders of thy grace.
- 4 Open mine eyes, the veil withdraw,
And I, O Lord, will keep thy law,
 If thou thy light impart,
Through grace determined to fulfil
Thy holy, good, and perfect will,
 With all my loving heart.

Hymn 24.

- 1 Teacher of babes, to thee
 I for instruction flee,
In my natural estate
 Thee, my God, I cannot know:
Let thy grace illuminate,
 Thee let thy own Spirit show.

2 Ah, give me other eyes
 Than flesh and blood supplies,
Spiritual discernment give;
 Then command the light to shine,
Then I shall the truth receive,
 Know by faith the things divine.

3 For this I ever pray,
 The darkness chase away
From a foolish, feeble mind,
 Humbly offered up to thee:
Help me, Lord; my soul is blind,
 Give me light, and eyes to see.

4 Thou seest my heart's desire,
 Whate'er thy laws require
Freely, faithfully to do;
 But I know not how t' obey,
'Till thy Spirit lend a clue,
 Pointing out the living way.

5 Now, Father, send him down,
 To make thy Godhead known,
Let him thee in Christ reveal,
 Now diffuse thy love abroad,
Show me things unsearchable,
 All the heights and depths of God.

Hymn 25.

1 Thee, Maker of the world we praise,
 The end of our creation own,
Being thou gav'st the favourite race,
 That man might love his God alone,
With knowledge filled, and joy, and peace,
And glorious, everlasting bliss.

2 But man his liberty of will
 Abused, and turned his heart from thee:
His fault on us entailed we feel,
 While born in sin and misery,

We from our God with horror fly,
And perish, and forever die.

3 We must have died that second death,
Had not the Son of God been man:
Jesus for us resigned his breath,
For us revived, and rose again,
He purged our sin, he bought our peace,
And fills us with his righteousness.

4 We now, by his good Spirit led,
Our own desires and will forego,
Delight in all his steps to tread,
And perfect holiness below,
Our ransomed souls to God resign
Filled up with peace and joy divine.

5 In Jesus joined to God again,
To all thy saints in earth and heaven,
We triumph with the sons of men,
Thy utmost grace to sinners given
Sure at his coming to receive,
And blest with thee forever live.

Hymn 26.

1 Foolish, ignorant, and blind
Is sinful, short-lived man,
All which in the world we find
Is perishing and vain,
Man must quickly turn to dust,
The world will be destroyed by fire;
Who would then on either trust
Or dotingly admire?

2 God is good, and great alone,
In wisdom infinite:
Let us render him his own,
And still in God delight,

Fix on him our trust, and choice,
And sing, and wonder, and adore,
In his holy will rejoice,
And triumph evermore.

Hymn 27.

- 1 Come, let us rival those above,
Rejoicing in our Father's love,
Our Father is th' Almighty Lord,
Our Father's glorious praise record;
He made us to rejoice in him,
Our first, and last, and endless theme.
- 2 Happy he doth and glorious live,
Beyond what we can e'er conceive;
He always to his promise stood,
Holy, and wise, and just, and good:
Rejoice, that God a King remains,
Rejoice that God forever reigns.
- 3 Worthy is God, and God alone
To be desired, and sought, and known,
Honour and praise he should receive,
And blessing more than man can give,
And might, and majesty, and love,
From all on earth, and all above.
- 4 Wherefore again we say rejoice,
And make to God, a cheerful noise,
To God who man for us became,
Extol the mighty Jesu's name,
Who died to live, who stooped to rise,
And take us with him to the skies.

Hymn 28.

- 1 Covered with conscious shame,
And grieved, O Lord, I am,

Praise to most unworthy me
That my fellow-worms should give:
Praise belongs to none but thee,
Praise let God alone receive.

2 Shall I, his creature I,
 By sinful robbery,
Take the honour and esteem
To my glorious Maker due?
No; I leave it all to him,
Him from whom my life I drew.

3 Father, accept thine own
 Through Jesus Christ thy Son:
Honour, glory, power is thine,
Mine, (if thou vouchsafe the grace)
With that heavenly choir to join,
In thine everlasting praise.

Hymn 29.

1 Rejoice in the Lord, rejoice evermore!
Who gave us the word, shall give us the power:
His grace is a treasure, which when we obtain,
Obedience is pleasure, and duty is gain.

2 The pleasure and gain of them that believe,
The reason of man can never conceive:
Too big for expression the comfort and peace,
'Tis present possession of heavenly bliss.

3 Who share it above, they never can lose
His heavenly love, or forfeit, like us,
Immanuel's favour, and therefore they rest
Wrapped up in their Saviour, and perfectly blest.

Hymn 30.

1 But we by divers ways
May fall from Jesu's grace,

Let him every moment go,
Lose our treasure and reward;
Watch we then against our foe,
Stand forever on our guard.

2 With reverential joy
 Let us our time employ,
Joy at Jesu's hands receive,
 Tempered with a serious fear,
Humbly, circumspectly live,
 Sin, the world, and hell so near.

3 Dangers and snares abound,
 And ever close us round,
Numberless, malicious powers
 Fight against us night and day,
Satan as a lion roars,
 Watching to devour his prey.

4 But our Almighty Lord
 Shall still his help afford,
Arm us with his patient mind,
 'Till we see our conflicts past,
Perfect joy and safety find,
 More than conquerors at last.

Hymn 31.
Before Reading the Scriptures.

1 O that I, like Timothy,
 Might the holy scriptures know
From mine earliest infancy,
 'Till for God mature I grow
Made unto salvation wise,
Ready for the glorious prize.

2 Jesus, all-redeeming Lord,
 Full of truth, and full of grace,
Make me understand thy word,
 Teach me in my youthful days

Wonders in thy word to see,
Wise through faith which is in thee.

- 3 Open now mine eyes of faith,
Open now the book of God,
Show me here the secret path,
Leading to thy blest abode,
Wisdom from above impart,
Speak the meaning to my heart.

Hymn 32.

- 1 Come let us embrace,
In our earliest days,
The offers of life and salvation by grace;
Let us gladly believe,
And the pardon receive,
Which the Father of mercies through Jesus doth give.
- 2 His kingdom below
He hath called us to know,
And in stature and heavenly wisdom to grow;
In his work to remain,
'Till his image we gain,
And the fulness of Christ in perfection attain.
- 3 Then let us begin
By renouncing all sin,
And expecting the blood that shall wash our hearts clean:
With endeavour sincere
To Jesus draw near,
And be instant in prayer, 'till our Saviour appear.
- 4 If now thou art nigh,
Appear at our cry,
Thy love to reveal, and thy blood to apply,
Thy little ones own,
And perfect in one,
And admit us at last to a share of thy throne.

Hymn 33.

- 1 Hosanna to the Son
 Of David on his throne!
Coming in Jehovah's name,
 Us, and all mankind to bless,
Let the stammering babes proclaim,
 Let the songs of children praise.
- 2 Jesus will not despise
 Our meanest sacrifice:
Though by highest heaven adored,
 Children thou dost still approve,
Suffer us to call thee Lord,
 Smile to hear us lisp thy love.
- 3 Saviour, thy mercy's praise
 Shall take up all our days,
For this only thing we live,
 Our Redeemer to commend,
Glory, thanks to thee we give,
 Soon begin, but never end.
- 4 Thee, Lord, we hope t' adore,
 When time shall be no more:
Only keep us to the day,
 When the angel-guards shall come,
Bear us on their wings away
 To our everlasting home.

Hymn 34.

- 1 Holy child of heavenly birth,
 God made manifest on earth,
Fain I would thy follower be,
 Live in every thing like thee.
- 2 Thou whom angels serve and fear,
 Subject to thy parents here,

Didst to me the pattern give,
How with mine I ought to live.

- 3 Teach me then betimes t' obey
Those who under God bear sway;
Masters, ministers to love,
All their just commands approve.
- 4 Let me to my betters bend,
Never wilfully offend,
By my meek submissiveness
Strive both God and them to please.
- 5 Thy humility impart,
Give me thy obedient heart,
Free and cheerful to fulfil
All my heavenly Father's will.
- 6 Keep me thus to God resigned,
'Till his love delights to find
Fairly copied out on me
All the mind which was in thee.

Hymn 35.

A Thought on Judgment.

- 1 And must I be to judgment brought,
And answer in that day
For every vain, or idle thought,
And every word I say?
- 2 Yes, every secret of my heart
Shall shortly be made known,
And I receive my just desert
For all that I have done.
- 3 How careful then ought I to live,
With what religious fear,
Who such a strict account must give
Of my behaviour here!

- 4 Thou awful judge of quick and dead,
 The watchful power bestow,
So shall I to my ways take heed,
 To all I speak and do.
- 5 If now thou standest at the door,
 O let me feel thee near,
And make my peace with God, before
 I at thy bar appear.
- 6 My peace thou hast already made,
 While hanging on the tree,
My sins he on thy body laid,
 And punished them in thee.
- 7 Ah, might I, Lord, the virtue prove
 Of thine atoning blood,
And know, thou ever liv'st above
 My advocate with God;
- 8 Receive the answer of thy prayer,
 The sense of sin forgiven,
And follow thee with loving care,
 And go in peace to heaven.

Hymn 36.

- 1 The Lord he knows the thoughts of men,
 That they are foolish all and vain,
'Till chastened by affliction's rod,
 The sinners mourn, and turn to God.
- 2 O might his grace victorious prove,
And draw us with the cords of love
To seek him in the dawn of day,
And gladly from our hearts obey.
- 3 Father, the kind instruction give,
And let us now begin to live,
To live the life of piety,
To live like creatures born for thee.

- 4 Taught by the Spirit of thy grace
O may we rightly count our days,
To wisdom's rules our hearts apply,
And warm in life prepare to die.
- 5 And when our spirits we resign
Into those gracious hands of thine,
Thy newborn children, Lord, receive,
With thee eternally to live.

Hymn 37.

- 1 When dear Lord, ah, tell us when
Shall we be in knowledge men,
Men in strength and constancy,
Men of God, confirmed in thee?
- 2 Childish now alas we are,
Void of faith and watchful care,
After all our teachers' pains,
Little good in us remains.
- 3 Soon our best desires decay,
As a cloud they pass away,
Light received, the serious thought,
Soon, and easily forgot.
- 4 O how fickle is our mind,
More inconstant than the wind,
Suddenly our goodness fails,
Levity again prevails.
- 5 Strong and fervent for an hour,
Then we cast away the power,
Lose insensibly our zeal,
Care for neither heaven nor hell.
- 6 Jesus, Lord, we cry to thee,
Help our soul's infirmity,
Great unchangeable I AM,
Make us evermore the same.

- 7 Plant in us thy constant mind,
To thy cross our spirit bind,
That we may no longer rove,
Ground and 'stablish us in love.
- 8 Love that makes us creatures new,
Only love can keep us true,
Perfect love that casts out sin,
Perfect love is God within.
- 9 God within our hearts reside,
Then we shall in God abide,
Always firm and faithful prove,
Fixed in everlasting love.

Hymn 38.⁵

- 1 Let children proclaim their Saviour and King!
To Jesus's name hosannas we sing,
Our best adoration to Jesus we give,
Who purchased salvation for all to receive.
- 2 The meek Lamb of God from heaven came down,
And ransomed with blood, and made us his own;
He suffered to save us from sin and from thrall,
And Jesus shall have us, who purchased us all.
- 3 To him will we give our earliest days,
And thankfully live, to publish his praise,
Our lives shall confess him who came from above,
Our tongues, they shall bless him, and tell of his love.
- 4 In innocent songs his coming we shout:
Should we hold our tongues, the stones would cry out:
But him without ceasing we all will proclaim,
And ever be blessing our Jesus's name.

⁵Manuscript precursors of this hymn appear in MS Cheshunt 64–65; MS Clarke 71–72; and MS Richmond, 47.

Hymn 39.⁶

- 1 O Saviour of all,
 We come at thy call,
In the morning of life at thy feet do we fall.
 Thy mercy is free;
 Our helplessness see,
And let little children be brought unto thee.
- 2 To us thy love show
 Who nothing do know,
For of such is the kingdom of heaven below:
 O give us thy grace
 In our earliest days,
And let us grow up to thy honour and praise.
- 3 But rather than live
 Thy goodness to grieve,
Back into thy hands we our spirits would give:
 O take us away
 In the morn of our day,
And let us no longer in misery stay.
- 4 If now we remove,
 Thy pity and love
Will certainly take us to heaven above:
 With thee we shall dwell,
 Who hast loved us so well:
For O, wilt thou send little children to hell?
- 5 We need not come there,
 But at death may repair
To heaven, and heavenly happiness share:
 Us mercy shall raise
 To that happy place,
And we shall behold with our angels thy face.
- 6 They now are our guard,
 And ready prepared
To carry us hence to our glorious reward:

⁶Manuscript precursors of this hymn appear in MS Clarke, 140–41; and MS Richmond, 47–48.

Ere long it shall be;
We are ransomed by thee,
And we our all-loving Redeemer shall see.

- 7 Our bodies are thine,
 Our souls we resign
To be wholly employed in the service divine,
 Our spirits we give
 For thee to receive:
O who would not die, with his Saviour to live!

Hymn 40.

At the Opening of a School in Kingswood.

- 1 Come Father, Son, and Holy-Ghost,
 To whom we for our children cry,
The good desired and wanted most
 Out of thy richest grace supply,
The sacred discipline be given
To train, and bring them up for heaven.
- 2 Answer on them that end of all
 Our cares, and pains, and studies here,
On them, recovered from their fall,
 Stamped with the humble⁷ character,
Raised by the nurture of the Lord,
To all their paradise restored.
- 3 Error and ignorance remove,
 Their blindness both of heart and mind,
Give them the wisdom from above,
 Spotless, and peaceable, and kind,
In knowledge pure their mind renew,
And store with thoughts divinely true.
- 4 Learning's redundant part and vain
 Be here cut off, and cast aside:
But let them, Lord, the substance gain,
 In every solid truth abide,

⁷“Humble” changed to “heavenly” in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

Swiftly acquire, and ne'er forego
The knowledge fit for man to know.

- 5 Unite the pair so long disjoined
 Knowledge and vital piety,
Learning and holiness combined,
 And truth and love let all men see
In these whom up to thee we give,
Thine, wholly thine to die and live.
- 6 Father, accept them in thy Son
 And ever by thy Spirit guide,
Thy wisdom in their lives be shown,
 Thy name confessed and glorified,
Thy power and love diffused abroad,
'Till all our earth is filled with God.

Hymn 41.

- 1 Captain of our salvation, take
 The souls we here present to thee,
And fit for thy great service make
 These heirs of immortality,
And let them in thine image rise,
And then transplant them to the skies.
- 2 Unspotted from the world and pure
 Preserve them for thy glorious cause,
Accustomed daily to endure
 The welcome burden of thy cross,
Inured to toil, and patient pain,
'Till all thy perfect mind they gain.
- 3 Our sons henceforth be wholly thine,
 And serve and love thee all their days:
Infuse the principle divine
 In all who here expect thy grace,
Let each improve the grace bestowed,
Rise every child a man of God!

- 4 Train up thy hardy soldiers, Lord,
In all their Captain's steps to tread,
Or send them to proclaim the word,
Thy gospel through the world to spread,
Freely as they receive to give,
And preach the death by which they live.

Hymn 42.

- 1 But who sufficient is to lead,
And execute the vast design?
How can our arduous toil succeed,
When earth and hell their forces join
The meanest instruments t' o'erthrow
Which thou hast ever used below?
- 2 Mountains alas, on mountains rise,
To make our utmost efforts vain,
The work our feeble strength defies,
And all the helps and hopes of man,
Our utter impotence we see;
But nothing is too hard for thee.
- 3 The things impossible to man
Thou canst for thy own people do:
Thy strength be in our weakness seen,
Thy wisdom in our folly show,
Prevent, accompany, and bless,
And crown the whole with full success.
- 4 Unless the power of heavenly grace,
The wisdom of the deity
Direct, and govern all our ways,
And all our works be wrought in thee,
Our blasted works, we know, shall fail,
And earth and hell at last prevail.
- 5 But O, Almighty God of love,
Into thy hand the matter take,
The mountain-obstacles remove
For thy own truth and mercy sake,

Fulfil in ours thy own design,
And prove the work entirely thine.

Hymn 43.

- 1 How hapless are the lettered youth,
How distant from the paths of truth
And solid happiness!
Their knowledge makes them doubly blind,
The medicine for their sin-sick mind
But heightens their disease.
- 2 The world's, and sin's, and Satan's prey,
At the first step they go astray,
Nor ever God *intend*:
They do not at his glory aim,
Begin their work in Jesu's name,
Or make his love their end.
- 3 By ten years' siege the fort they take,
And learning's shell their own they make,
With outward knowledge fraught;
But tutored for this world alone,
The one thing needful to be known
They and their guides forgot.
- 4 In specious pride and envy bred,
Down a broad beaten track they tread,
As vicious nature draws,
With hellish emulation fired,
They lust to be caressed, admired,
And pampered with applause.
- 5 Their teachers edge their thirst of fame,
And pour more oil upon the flame,
And raise their passions higher;
Like Herod, each the children slays,
Or makes the helpless victims pass
To Molock through the fire.

- 6 Who shall arise in their defence,
The cause of injured innocence
 With generous zeal maintain,
Train up poor children for the Lord,
And serve, expecting no reward,
 'Till one in heaven they gain?
- 7 Lord, if thou hast our hearts inclined,
And for this very thing designed
 The meanest of the crowd,
With suitable endowments bless,
With gifts of learning and of grace,
 To build the house of God.
- 8 To those thou shalt with us intrust,
O make us diligently just,
 With strict fidelity
To answer all we undertake,
And not for gain but conscience' sake,
 To breed them up for thee.
- 9 Here let thy providence preside,
Thy Spirit be our constant guide,
 Thy word our perfect rule,
Their prayers let all the faithful join,
With truth, and power, and love divine,
 To found *the Christian school*.
- 10 So be it, Lord, our labours speed,
And for thyself raise up a seed,
 Thy name to glorify,
A generation wise and good,
With solid piety endued,
 And knowledge from on high.
- 11 Mould them according to thy will,
And set the city on the hill,
 The fairly rising race,
To scatter light on all around,
And to succeeding times resound
 Thine everlasting praise.

Hymn 44.
For the Scholars.

- 1 O thou, whose providential grace
 Hath been in our behalf made known,
From different parts by secret ways
 Whose eye hath drawn us into one,
The things most excellent t' approve,
And learn the power of dying LOVE:
- 2 We lift our thankful hearts to thee,
 And gladly close with thy design,
With early zeal from evil flee,
 In following after Jesus join,
And long to feel his sprinkled blood,
And long to cry, My Lord, my God!
- 3 Father, to us thy Spirit give,
 Him in our youthful hearts reveal,
Him by whose precious death we live,
 Redeemed from sin, and earth, and hell,
Through whom our Eden we regain,
And then in heavenly glory reign.
- 4 Now, Lord, the gracious work begin,
 His blood to every soul apply,
Assure me of my pardoned sin,
 Confirm, and th'roughly sanctify,
Prepare us for that endless rest,
And take thy children to thy breast.

Hymn 45.

- 1 How sad our state by nature is,
 While enemies to God,
We wander from the way of peace,
 And throng the downward road!

- 2 As a wild ass's colt is man,
Untaught and unconfined,
'Till discipline his will restrain,
And faith inform his mind.
- 3 But O, with what reluctant strife
Do men themselves forego!
How late begin the work of life,
How late their Saviour know!
- 4 Called in the morning of their day,
How few like us are blest!
Us, if we now the call obey,
And fly to Jesu's breast.
- 5 This, Lord, is our sincere desire
To find our rest in thee,
To do whate'er thy laws require
In true simplicity;
- 6 The inward change, that second birth,
By faith divine to prove,
And practise all thy will on earth,
As angels do above.

Hymn 46.

- 1 Happy Samuel, to God
In his infancy restored!
In his Maker's house he stood,
Minis'tring before the Lord:
There he lived to God alone,
Pure from sin's infecting stain,
Grew in years and wisdom on,
Favoured both by God and man.
- 2 Happy child! Who gained a place
To his heavenly Lord so near!
Happier still, who found the grace,
God's majestic voice to hear!

Mysteries hidden from the wise,
From the prudent *men* concealed,
God, the Lord of earth and skies,
To a simple babe revealed.

- 3 Lord of earth and skies, again
To a child thyself make known:
Chosen from the sons of men,
Am not I thy sacred loan?
Yes, I to thy temple come,
By my parents' piety
Dedicated from the womb,
Freely given up to thee.
- 4 Thine, O Lord, I surely am,
But to me unknown thou art:
Come, and call me by my name,
Whisper to my list'ning heart,
Stir me up to seek thy face,
Claim me in my tender years,
Manifest the word of grace:
Speak, for now thy servant hears.
- 5 Fain I would, I would believe,
Hear by faith thy pard'ning voice;
Of thy love the knowledge give,
Bid me, Lord, in thee rejoice,
Now thy gracious self reveal,
Speak in power and peace divine,
Pardon on my conscience seal,
Seal thy child forever thine.

Hymn 47.

- 1 Father, with joy we praise
Thy providential care,
Snatched in our youthful days
From sin and Satan's snare,

We own, and thankfully approve
Thy merciful design,
And vow to seek the things above,
And live entirely thine.

2 But vain our vows, we know,
And strongest promises,
Unless our God bestow
The power himself to please:
Nor men, nor means can change the heart,
Or render it sincere,
'Till thou the principle impart
Of godly, gracious fear.

3 Hear then thy children's call,
Fulfil thine⁸ own desire,
And kindle in us all
A spark of heavenly fire,
A taste of God, a seed of grace
Let every soul receive,
And now begin the Christian race,
And now begin to live.

4 Trained up in the true way
Wherein we ought to go,
Preserve us, lest we stray,
When more in years we grow;
O let us not, when old, depart
From our integrity,
But love our God with all our heart,
And live and die to thee.

Hymn 48.

1 How wretched are the boys at school,
Who wickedly delight
To mock, and call each other fool,
And with each other fight!

⁸“Thine” changed to “thy” in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

- 2 Who soon their innocence lose,
And learn to curse and swear:
Or, if they do no harm, suppose
That good enough they are.
- 3 O how much happier we than they!
We from the paths of vice
Removed far off, and taught the way
That leads us to the skies!
- 4 We to the Lamb's atoning blood
Are pointed in our youth,
And rightly taught to worship God
In spirit and in truth.
- 5 Yet nought have we whereof to boast,
As wiser than the rest:
He is not wise who knows the most,
But he who lives the best.
- 6 If God on us hath much bestowed,
He will require the more:
We ought to serve and love our God
With all our heart and power.
- 7 But if we live in vice and sin,
And make him no return,
Far better it for us had been
That we had ne'er been born.
- 8 We shall with many stripes be beat,
The sorest judgment feel,
And of all wicked children meet
The hottest place in hell.

Hymn 49.

- 1 But O, we hope for better things:
Who left his throne above,
We trust, shall hide us with his wings,
And wrap us in his love:

- 2 He who so much for us hath done,
Will still our souls defend,
And carry on the work begun
To a triumphant end.
- 3 Guide of our weak, unstable youth,
Jesu, thy Spirit give,
To lead into all saving truth
Us who thy grace receive.
- 4 We do with thanks receive it now,
To keep with humble care,
And all our necks and spirits bow
Thine easy yoke to bear.
- 5 To thee our steadfast hearts shall cleave
In these our early days,
Thee whom we long to serve, and live
To spread abroad thy praise.
- 6 Out of our mouth and life, O Lord,
Thy perfect praise ordain;
And let us live to keep thy word,
And die with thee to reign.

Hymn 50.

- 1 How happy, Lord, thy children are,
Far from the world and all its care,
And all its sin removed!
Thou dost for us a place provide,
And in the secret desert hide,
And nourish thy beloved.
- 2 Hither by special mercy led,
A little flock, a chosen seed,
We shun the paths of men,
Called in our consecrated youth,
To listen for the voice of truth,
And solid learning gain.

- 3 Thou call'st us here to seek thy face,
 To learn the lessons of thy grace,
 And feel th' atoning blood:
 Thou talk'st to every heart sincere,
 And all thy pard'ning voice may hear,
 And find thee in the wood.
- 4 Come then, the life, the truth, the way,
 Now in the morning of our day,
 These clouds of sin remove,
 Make us unto salvation wise,
 And help us to secure the prize
 Of thy eternal love.

Hymn 51.

- 1 O for a thankful heart
 Our Father's love to own,
 To taste how merciful thou art
 In all that thou hast done!
 How bountiful and kind
 To us above the rest,
 If blest with a contented mind,
 We know that we are blest.
- 2 Thy providence hath cared
 For our simplicity,
 For us a place and means prepared
 Of rightly knowing thee:
 To glorify thy name
 Us thou hast hither led,
 To serve and love the bleeding Lamb,
 Who suffered in our stead.
- 3 Ah, let us not receive
 Thy choicest grace in vain,
 Nor ever more thy Spirit grieve,
 Or put our Lord to pain!

Lightness and discontent
With every sin depart,
And let us each to thee present
A willing, honest heart.

[4] Lord, we present it now
For thee to form anew,
Our Maker and Redeemer thou,
Thine utmost pleasure show,
In us with power fulfil
The work of faith divine,
And take us to thy heavenly hill,
To live forever thine.

Hymn 52.
Before School.

- 1 Father, to thee our souls we raise,
And for a blessing look,
Prevent, and help us by thy grace
In learning of our book.
- 2 Give us an humble active mind,
From sloth and folly free,
Give us a cheerful heart, inclined
To truth and piety.
- 3 A faithful memory bestow,
With solid learning store,
And still, O Lord, as more we know,
Let us obey thee more:
- 4 Let us things excellent discern,
Hold fast what we approve,
And above all delight to learn
The lessons of thy love.

Hymn 53.
In School.

- 1 Still let us keep the end in mind
For which we hither came,
In search of useful knowledge joined,
As followers of the Lamb.
- 2 Through him let us to God look up
In every step we take,
And for his constant blessing hope
For Jesu's only sake.
- 3 His grace if God on us confer,
We then shall learn apace,
Live to his glory, and declare
Our heavenly teacher's praise.
- 4 We in his favour shall retrieve
Our long lost paradise,
Take of the tree of life, and live
Immortal in the skies.

Hymn 54.
After School.

- 1 Jesus we cast ourselves on thee,
On thee our works we cast,
The Alpha and Omega be
In all, the first and last.
- 2 If well we any thing have done,
'Tis owing to thy grace:
What therefore we with prayer begun,
We now conclude with praise.
- 3 We praise thee for our master's care
To us poor children showed,
If forward brought today we are,
It is the gift of God.

4 We praise thee for our hope to know
The wisdom from above,
And own that all our blessings flow
From thy expiring love.

Hymn 55.
Against Idleness.

1 Idle boys and men are found
Standing on the devil's ground,
He will find them work to do,
He will pay their wages too.

2 Are they not of wisdom void,
Those that saunter unemployed,
Young, or old, who fondly play
Their important time away?

3 What a bold and foolish lie,
When we hear a trifler cry,
"I no other business have!"
Has he not a soul to save?

4 Has he from his Lord above
No one talent to improve?
Let him go and muse on this,
Sloth is the worst wickedness.

5 Sloth is the accursed root,
Whence ten thousand evils shoot,
Every vice and every sin
Doth with idleness begin.

6 We by idleness expose
Our own souls to endless woes,
We, whenever loitering thus,
Tempt the devil to tempt us.

7 But suffice the season past
That our time away we cast,
Thoughtless and insensible,
Dancing on the brink of hell.

- 8 Let us now to Jesus turn,
For our misspent moments mourn,
Let us in his Spirit's power
Promise to stand still no more.
- 9 Jesus, help; to thee we pray,
Take the cursed root away,
Idleness far off remove,
Let us thee and labour love;
- 10 All our time and vigour give,
Serve our Maker while we live,
Use for God the talents given,
Work on earth, and rest in heaven.

Hymn 56.
Against Lying.

- 1 Happy the well-instructed youth
Who in his earliest infancy,
Loves from his heart to speak the truth,
And like his God abhors a lie.
- 2 He that hath practised no deceit
With false equivocating tongue,
Nor ever durst o'erreach, or cheat,
Or slanderously his neighbour wrong;
- 3 He in the house of God shall dwell,
He on his holy hill shall rest,
The comforts of religion feel,
And then be numbered with the blest.
- 4 But who or guile or falsehood use,
Or take God's name in vain, or swear,
Or ever lie, themselves t' excuse,
They shall their dreadful sentence bear.
- 5 The Lord, the true and faithful Lord,
Himself hath said, that every liar
Shall surely meet his just reward
Assigned him in eternal fire.

Hymn 57.

- 1 O may I to my ways take heed,
Nor ever with my tongue offend,
Or grieve that God by word or deed,
Whose wrath can punish without end!
- 2 O may I never, never tell,
To gain the world, one wilful lie,
For what would the whole world avail,
If my own soul I lost thereby?
- 3 Thou, Lord, who art the truth, the way,
On me thy saving grace bestow,
To keep me, lest I go astray,
To make me in thy footsteps go.
- 4 Still may I in the truth delight,
Still may I take delight in thee,
Order my conversation right,
And all thy great salvation see.
- 5 So shall I see thy face with joy,
When caught up to thy throne above,
And all eternity employ
In praises of thy faithful love.

Hymn 58.

- 1 Why should our parents call us good,
And poison us with praise,
When born in sin by nature proud,
And void we are of grace?
- 2 Who fancy righteousness in man,
Themselves they have not known,
Evil are all our thoughts and vain,
And God is good alone.

- 3 Good of himself he only is;
And if he makes us good,
Our goodness is not ours, but his,
For Jesu's sake bestowed.
- 4 O let us not ourselves forget,
Though man presume to praise,
And puff us up with the conceit
Of our own righteousness.
- 5 O let us as from serpents fly
From all who us commend,
Or filled with just abhorrence cry,
"Get thee behind me, fiend!"
- 6 Glory to God, if we receive
The smallest spark of grace,
He only doth our goodness give,
And his be all the praise.

Hymn 59.

- 1 And am I born to die,
To lay this body down?
And must my trembling spirit fly
Into a world unknown,
A world of darkest shade,
Unpierced by human thought,
The dreary regions of the dead,
Where all things are forgot!
- 2 Soon as from earth I go,
What will become of me?
Eternal happiness or woe
Must then my portion be:
Waked by the trumpet's sound
I from my grave shall rise,
And see the judge with glory crowned,
And see the flaming skies.

- 3 How shall I leave my tomb?
 With triumph or regret?
A fearful, or a joyful doom,
 A curse or blessing meet?
 Shall angel-bands convey
 Their brother to the bar?
Or devils drag my soul away,
 To meet its sentence there?
- 4 Who can resolve the doubt
 That tears my anxious breast?
Shall I be with the damned cast out,
 Or numbered with the blest?
 I must from God be driven
 Or with my Saviour dwell,
Must *come*, at his command, to heaven,
 Or else *depart* to hell.
- 5 O thou who wouldst not have
 One wretched sinner die,
Who diedst thyself, my soul to save
 From endless misery,
 Show me the way to shun
 Thy dreadful wrath severe,
That when thou comest on the throne,
 I may with joy appear.
- 6 Thou art thyself the way:
 Thyself in me reveal,
So shall I pass my life's short day
 Obedient to thy will;
 So shall I love my God,
 Because he first loved me,
And praise thee in thy bright abode
 Through all eternity.

Hymn 60.
A Thought on Hell.

- 1 Terrible thought! Shall I alone,
 Who may be saved, shall I
Of all alas, whom I have known,
 Through sin forever die!
- 2 While all my old companions dear,
 With whom I once did live,
Joyful at God's right hand appear,
 A blessing to receive;
- 3 Shall I, amidst a ghastly band
 Dragged to the judgment-seat,
Far on the left with horror stand,
 My fearful doom to meet?
- 4 Abandoned to extreme despair,
 Eternally undone,
My Father would not own me there⁹
 His hell-devoted son.
- 5 Dissolved are nature's closest ties,
 And bosom-friends forgot,
When God, the just avenger, cries,
 "Depart, I know you not."
- 6 But must I from his glorious face,
 From all his saints retire?
But must I go to my own place
 In everlasting fire?
- 7 While they enjoy his heavenly love,
 Must I in torments dwell,
And howl (while they sing hymns above)
 And blow the flames of hell?
- 8 Ah, no: I still may turn and live,
 For still his wrath delays,
He now vouchsafes a kind reprieve,
 And offers me his grace.

⁹Ori., "then"; a misprint, corrected in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

- 9 I *will* accept his offers now,
From every sin depart,
Perform my oft-repeated vow,
And render him my heart.
- 10 I will improve what I receive,
The grace through Jesus given,
Sure, if with God on earth I live,
To live with God in heaven.

Hymn 61.
For the Lord's Day.

- 1 Come, let us with our Lord arise,
Our Lord who made both earth and skies,
Who died to save the world he made,
And rose triumphant from the dead;
He rose, the Prince of life and peace,
And stamped the day forever his.
- 2 This is the day the Lord hath made,
That all may see his power displayed,
May feel his resurrection's power,
And rise again, to fall no more,
In perfect righteousness renewed,
And filled with all the life of God.
- 3 Then let us render him his own,
With solemn prayer approach his¹⁰ throne,
With meekness hear the gospel-word,
With thanks his dying love record,
Our joyful hearts and voices raise,
And fill his courts with songs of praise.
- 4 Honour and praise to Jesus pay
Throughout his consecrated day,
Be all in Jesu's praise employed,
Nor leave a single moment void,
With utmost care the time improve,
And only breathe his praise and love.

¹⁰“His” changed to “the” in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

Hymn 62.
On the Same [For the Lord's Day].

- 1 Come, let us join with one accord,
 In hymns around the throne!
 This is the day our rising Lord
 Hath made and called his own:
- 2 This is the day which God hath blest,
 The brightest of the seven,
 Type of that everlasting rest
 The saints enjoy in heaven.
- 3 Then let us in his name sing on,
 And hasten to that day,
 When our Redeemer shall come down,
 And shadows pass away.
- 4 Not one, but all our days below,
 Let us in hymns employ,
 And in our Lord rejoicing, go
 To his eternal joy.

Hymn 63.

- 1 O Father of all,
 The great and the small,
 The old and the young,
 Thanksgiving accept from a stammerer's tongue.
 Thy goodness we praise,
 Which has found us a place,
 Has planted us here,
 To be mildly brought up in thy nurture and fear.
- 2 Thy mercy and truth
 In the days of our youth
 We learn to adore,
 And gladly acknowledge thy wisdom and power;

Thy astonishing plan
To recover lost man,
With the heavenly choir,
We are taught in the morning of life to admire.

3 Thy favour we find
In the friend of mankind,
Sent down from above,
The witness and proof of thy fatherly love:
With joy we embrace
Thy tenders of grace,
Through the blood of the Lamb,
And accept our salvation in Jesus's name.

4 Thy mercy hath brought
Salvation unsought,
To us, and to all,
And all may be saved, if they follow the call:
We follow it here,
'Till the Saviour appear,
His saints to approve,
And carry us up to his kingdom above.

Hymn 64.¹¹

1 And am I only born to die?
And must I suddenly comply
With nature's stern decree?
What after death for me remains?
Celestial joys, or hellish pains
Through all eternity.

2 How then ought I on earth to live,
While God prolongs the kind reprieve,
And props the house of clay!
My sole concern, my single care,
To watch, and tremble, and prepare
Against that fatal day.

¹¹A manuscript precursor of this hymn appears in MS Richmond, 129–30.

- 3 No room for mirth or trifling here,
For worldly hope, or worldly fear,
 If life so soon is gone,
If now the judge is at the door,
And all mankind must stand before
 Th' inexorable throne.
- 4 No matter which my thoughts employ,
A moment's misery or joy:
 But O, when both shall end,
Where shall I find my destined place?
Must I my everlasting days
 With fiends, or angels spend?
- 5 Nothing is worth a thought beneath,
But how I may escape the death
 That never never dies,
How make my own salvation¹² sure,
And when I fail on earth, secure
 A mansion in the skies.
- 6 Jesus, vouchsafe a pitying ray,
Be thou my strength, be thou my way
 To glorious happiness,
Ah, write the pardon on my heart,
And whensoever I hence depart,
 Let me depart in peace.

Hymn 65.

- 1 Young men and maidens, raise
 Your tuneful voices high,
Old men and children, praise
 The Lord of earth and sky,
Him Three in One, and One in Three
Extol to all eternity.
- 2 The universal King
 Let all the worlds¹³ proclaim,
Let every creature sing
 His attributes and name,
Him Three in One, and One in Three
Extol to all eternity.

¹²“Salvation” changed to “election” in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

¹³“Worlds” changed to “world” in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

3 In his great name alone
 All excellencies meet,
 Who sits upon the throne,
 And shall forever sit:
Him Three in One, and One in Three
Extol to all eternity.

4 Glory to God belongs,
 Glory to God be given,
 Above the noblest songs
 Of all in earth and heaven:
Him Three in One, and One in Three
Extol to all eternity.

Hymn 66.
Before, or In Their Work.

1 Let heathenish boys
 In their pastimes rejoice,
And be foolishly happy at play;
 Overstocked if *they* are,
 We have nothing to spare,
Not a moment to trifle away.

2 Our minds to unbend,
 We need not offend,
Or our Saviour by idleness grieve:
 Whatsoever we do,
 Our end is in view,
And to Jesus his glory we live.

3 Recreation of mind
 We in exercise find,
And our bodily strength is renewed:
 New employment is ease,
 And our pleasure, to please
By our labour a merciful God.

4 Our hearts and our hands
 He justly demands,

And both to our Lord we resign,
Overpaid, if he smile
On our innocent toil,
And accept as a service divine.

5 In our useful employ
We his blessing enjoy,
Whither¹⁴ clearing, or digging the ground,
With songs we proclaim
Our Immanuel's name,
And our angels attend to the sound.

6 The meadow and field
True pleasure doth yield,
When to either with Jesus we go,
Or a paradise find,
Like the head of mankind,
And our pains on a garden bestow.

7 Howsoever employed
In the presence of God,
We our forfeited Eden regain,
And delightfully rise
To our Lord in the skies,
In his fulness of glory to reign.

HYMNS FOR GIRLS.

Hymn 67.

[Part 1.]

1 Ah! Dire effect of female pride!
How deep our mother's sin, and wide,
Through all her daughters spread!
Since first she plucked the mortal tree,
Each woman would a goddess be
In her Creator's stead.

2 This fatal vanity of mind,
A curse entailed on all the kind,

¹⁴“Whither” changed to “Whether” in 3rd edn. (1778) and following.

Her legacy we feel,
We neither can deny nor tame
Our inbred eagerness for fame,
And stubbornness of will.

3 The poison spreads throughout our veins,
In all our sex the evil reigns,
The arrogant offence,
In vain we strive the plague to hide;
Our fig-leaves but bewray our pride,
And loss of innocence.

4 Deeper we sink, and deeper still,
In pride instructed and self-will,
As custom leads the way:
The world their infant charge receive,
To pleasure our young hearts we give,
And bow to passion's sway.

5 By folly taught, by nature led,
In senseless¹⁵ delicacy bred,
In soft luxurious ease:
A feeble mind and body meet,
And pride and ignorance complete
Our total uselessness.

Part 2.

1 See from the world's politest school
The goddess rise, mankind to rule,
As born for her alone!
Unclogged by thought, she issues forth,
And justly conscious of her worth,
Ascends her gaudy throne.

2 With lust of fame and pleasure fired,
The virgin shines caressed, admired,
And idolized by all:
Obedient to her dread command,
Around her throne the votaries stand,
Or at her footstool fall.

¹⁵“Senseless” changed to “sensual” in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

3 Prostrate before the idol's shrine,
They celebrate her charms divine,
Her beauty's awful power,
By brutal appetite inspired,
By passion urged, by Satan hired
To damn whom they adore.

4 Eager she drinks their praises in,
Repeats the heaven-invading sin,
And seems with gods to dwell,
Triumphant, 'till her hour is past,
And quite undeified at last
The sinner sinks to hell.

Part 3.

1 How highly favoured then are we,
Snatched from a world of vanity,
And called in Jesu's name
To cultivate our tender mind,
And peace and happiness to find
With the atoning Lamb!

2 Our souls to God devoted are,
And ask, and have our chiefest care,
To fashion and improve,
The only ornament we seek
A spirit calm, and mild and meek,
And rich in faith and love.

3 The one thing needful we pursue,
And when we gain the prize in view,
And when we faith receive,
Still we renew the glorious strife,
And trampling down the pride of life
To God alone we live.

4 Clothed with humility and grace,
Regardless of the fallen race,
In angels' eyes we shine,
A robe of righteousness we wear,
Than gold and pearls more precious far,
And bought with blood divine.

- 5 By God approved, by man unknown,
The conquest of ourselves alone
We zealously desire,
The praise descending from above,
And none but our Redeemer's love
Our panting hearts require.
- 6 We for no worldly pleasures plead,
No innocent diversions need,
As Satan calls his joys:
His rattles let the tempter keep,
Or his own children rock to sleep
With such amusing toys.
- 7 The Lord himself our portion is,
Unfading joy and solid bliss
We find with Jesus given,
We find, reclining on his breast,
Our present and eternal rest,
Our all in earth and heaven.

Hymn 68.
Primitive Christianity.

[Part 1.]

- 1 The Christians of old, united in one,
As sheep in a fold, were never alone,
As birds of a feather, they flocked to their nest,
And sheltered together in Jesus his¹⁶ breast.
- 2 However employed, their joy was the same,
They never were cloyed with hymning the Lamb:
Their sole recreation to sing of his praise,
And publish salvation by Jesus his¹⁷ grace.
- 3 Small learning they had, and wanted no more:
Not many could read, but all could adore:
No help from the college or school they received,
Content with his knowledge in whom they believed.

¹⁶“Jesus his” changed to “Jesus’s” in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

¹⁷“Jesus his” changed to “Jesus’s” in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

- 4 No riches had they, but riches of grace,
No fondness for play, or passion for praise:
No moments of leisure for trifling employs,
Possessed of the pleasure in God to rejoice.
- 5 Men in their own eyes were children again,
And children were wise and solid as men;
The women were fearful of nothing but sin:
Their hearts were all cheerful, their consciences clean.
- 6 Wrapped up in their Lord, his service and love,
They lived and adored, like angels above,
To keep in his favour, their lives they laid down,
And now with their Saviour inherit the crown.

Part 2.

- 1 O where are the men with virtue endowed
To live, as did then the servants of God!
The ancient example, who shows us again,
Courageous to trample o'er¹⁸ pleasure and pain?
- 2 O Jesus, on us the blessing bestow,
Our infancy choose, thy glory to show,
In this generation thy witnesses raise,
The heirs of salvation, the vessels of grace.
- 3 Accept our desire, and give us thy love,
Thy children inspire with faith from above:
Purge out the old leaven, and early convert,
And open an heaven of grace in our heart.
- 4 Begotten again, and principled right,
Good works to maintain, and walk in thy sight,
We then shall recover that vigour of grace,
And gladly live over those primitive days.
- 5 Our moments below shall pleasantly glide,
While nothing we know but Christ crucified,

¹⁸“O'er” changed to “on” in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

Our whole conversation in songs shall approve,
Thy wonderful passion, thy ransoming love.

- 6 And if we must win the crown, like our God,
And strive against sin, resisting to blood,
We more than victorious o'er death shall arise,
All happy and glorious with Christ in the skies.

HYMNS FOR THE YOUNGEST.

Hymn 69.¹⁹

[Part 1.]

- 1 Gentle Jesus, meek and mild,
Look upon a little child,
Pity my simplicity,
Suffer me to come to thee:
- 2 Fain I would to thee be brought,
Dearest God, forbid it not,
Give me, dearest God, a place
In the kingdom of thy grace.
- 3 Put thy hands upon my head,
Let me in thine arms be staid,
Let me lean upon thy breast,
Lull me, lull me, Lord, to rest.
- 4 Hold me fast in thine embrace,
Let me see thy smiling face,
Give me, Lord, thy blessing give,
Pray for me, and I shall live:
- 5 I shall live the simple life,
Free from sin's uneasy strife,
Sweetly ignorant of ill,
Innocent and happy still.
- 6 O that I may never know
What the wicked people do:
Sin is contrary to thee,
Sin is the forbidden tree.

¹⁹Appeared first in *HSP* (1742), 194–95; included in *Hymns for Children* (1747), 1–2; numbered as fourteen continuous stanzas in both prior appearances.

7 Keep me from the great offence,
Guard my helpless innocence,
Hide me, from all evil hide,
Self, and stubbornness and pride.

Part 2.

1 Lamb of God, I look to thee,
Thou shalt my example be,
Thou art gentle, meek, and mild,
Thou wast once a little child.

2 Fain I would be as thou art,
Give me thy obedient heart;
Thou art pitiful and kind,
Let me have thy loving mind.

3 Meek, and lowly may I be,
Thou art all humility;
Let me to my betters bow,
Subject to thy parents thou.

4 Let me above all fulfil
God my heavenly Father's will,
Never his good Spirit grieve,
Only to his glory live.

5 Thou didst live to God alone,
Thou didst never seek thine own,
Thou thyself didst never please,
God was all thy happiness.

6 Loving Jesus, gentle Lamb,
In thy gracious hands I am,
Make me, Saviour, what thou art,
Live thyself within my heart.

7 I shall then show forth thy praise,
Serve thee all my happy days,
Then the world shall always see
Christ, the holy child, in me.

Hymn 70.²⁰

[Part 1.]

- 1 Lamb of God, I fain would be
A meek follower of thee,
Gentle, tractable, and mild,
Loving as a little child:
- 2 Simple, ignorant of ill,
Guided by another's will,
Trusting him for heavenly food,
Casting all my care on God.
- 3 Let me in thy footsteps tread,
Be to all the creatures dead,
Dead to pleasure, wealth, and praise,
Poor, and humble all my days.
- 4 Prepossess my tender mind,
Let me cast the world behind,
All its pomps and pleasures vain
Help me, Saviour, to disdain.
- 5 Thou my better portion art,
Earth shall never share my heart,
I on all its goods look down,
I expect a starry crown:
- 6 I aspire to things above,
Lord, I give thee all my love,
I will nothing know beside
Jesus, and him crucified.

Part 2.

- 1 Let the potsherds of the earth
Boast their virtue, beauty, birth,
A poor guilty worm I am,
Ransomed by the bleeding Lamb.
- 2 Jesus, this be all my boast,
Thou hast saved a sinner lost,

²⁰Appeared first in *HSP* (1742), 196–97; included in *Hymns for Children* (1747), 3–4; numbered as fourteen continuous stanzas in (1742), stanza 11 omitted in (1747).

Thou hast spilt thy sacred blood,
Me to make a child of God.

- 3 What a glorious title this,
Title to eternal bliss!
Thou for me thy life hast given,
Me to make an heir of heaven.
- 4 O enlarge my scanty thought
To conceive what thou hast wrought,
Raise my grov'ling spirit up
To my heavenly calling's hope:
- 5 Greaten my contracted mind,
Saviour thou of all mankind;
What in man thy grace could move?
O the riches of thy love!
- 6 Let thy love possess me whole,
Let it take up all my soul,
True magnificence impart,
Purify, and fill my heart.
- 7 I despise all earthly things,
Offspring to the King of kings,
God I for my Father claim,
Jesus is my brother's name,
- 8 Heaven is mine inheritance,
I shall soon remove from hence,
As the stars in glory shine,
Christ, and God, and all is mine!

Hymn 71.²¹

- 1 Come let us join the hosts above
Now in our youngest days,
Remember our Creator's love,
And lisp our Father's praise.
- 2 His majesty will not despise
The day of feeble things:
Grateful the songs of children rise,
And please the King of kings.

²¹Appeared first in *HSP* (1742), 197–98; included in *Hymns for Children* (1747), 4–5.

- 3 We all his kind protection share,
Within his arms we rest;
The sucklings are his tenderest care,
While hanging on the breast.
- 4 We praise him with a stammering tongue,
While under his defence,
He smiles to hear the artless song
Of childish innocence.
- 5 He loves to be remembered thus,
And honoured for his grace,
Out of the mouth of babes like us
His wisdom perfects praise.
- 6 Glory to God, and praise, and power,
Honour and thanks be given,
Children, and cherubim, adore
The Lord of earth and heaven!

Hymn 72.²²

- 1 O happy state of infancy!
Strangers to guilty fears,
We live from sin and sorrow free
In these our tender years.
- 2 Jesus the Lord our shepherd is,
And did our souls redeem,
Our present and eternal bliss
Are both secured in him.
- 3 His mercy every sinner claims;
For all his flock he cares,
The sheep he gently leads, the lambs
He in his bosom bears.
- 4 Loving he is to all his sons,
Who hearken to his call,
But us, his weak, his little ones,
He loves us best of all.

²²Appeared first in *HSP* (1742), 198–99.

5 If unto us our friends are good,
'Twas he their hearts inclined,
He bids our fathers give us food,
And makes our mothers kind.

6 Then let us thank him for his grace,
He will not disapprove
Our meanest sacrifice of praise,
Our childish prattling love.

Hymn 73.²³

1 Come let us our good God proclaim
By earth and heaven adored;
Children are bid to praise his name,
And magnify the Lord.

2 Let us with all his saints agree,
With all his hosts above;
Part of his family are we,
His family of love.

3 Worthless are our best offerings,
Our songs are void of art,
Yet God accepts the smallest things,
Giv'n with a willing heart.

4 Us for the sake of Christ he loves
Who did our souls redeem,
And all our childish thoughts approves,
When offered up through him.

5 He makes us his peculiar care;
While by his Spirit led,
We all his genuine children are,
And on his bounty feed.

6 Though men despise our infancy,
Angels attend our ways,
On us they wait, yet always see
Our heavenly Father's face.

²³Appeared first in *HSP* (1742), 200–201.

- 7 Surrounded by a flaming host
The bright cherubic powers:
Not all the kings of earth can boast
Of such a guard as ours.
- 8 And while th' angelic army sings,
With them we feebly join
T' extol the glorious King of kings,
The majesty divine.

Hymn 74.²⁴

- 1 Lover of little children, thee,
O Jesus, we adore;
Our kind and loving Saviour be,
Both now and evermore.
- 2 O take us up into thine arms,
And we are truly blest,
Thy newborn babes are safe from harms,
While harboured in thy breast.
- 3 There let us ever, ever sleep
Strangers to guilt and care,
Free from the world of evil keep
Our tender spirits there.
- 4 Still as we grow in years, in grace
And wisdom let us grow,
But never leave thy dear embrace,
But never evil know.
- 5 Strong let us in thy grace abide,
But ignorant of ill;
In malice, subtlety, and pride
Let us be children still.
- 6 Lover of little children, thee,
O Jesus, we adore,
Our kind and loving Saviour be
Both now and evermore.

²⁴Appeared first in *HSP* (1742), 201–2; included in *Hymns for Children* (1747), 5–6.

Hymn 75.

- 1 Jesus, Son of David, hear,
 Thou whom angels glorify,
Bless thine infant-worshipper,
 Me who now hosanna cry,
Hardly understand the word;
 Yet I humbly pray for grace,
Teach my heart to call thee Lord,
 Teach my heart to mean thy praise.

- 2 Me, they say, thy hands have made,
 Me, thy precious blood hath bought:
But without thy Spirit's aid,
 This surpasses all my thought:
Saviour, to my heart explain,
 Maker both of earth and sky,
How could God become a man?
 How could God for sinners die?

- 3 Take me young into thy school,
 Me in my simplicity
By thy word and Spirit rule,
 Thou my kind instructor be;
Then I shall my Master prize,
 Then I shall my Saviour love,
'Till on angels' wings I rise,
 Rise, and sing thy praise above.

Hymn 76.

For the Morning.

- 1 Father I wake thy love to praise,
 Which hath my weakness kept,
Thy mercy did the angels place,
 To guard me while I slept.

- 2 I laid me down in peace, and rise
 Thy goodness to proclaim,
Present my morning sacrifice,
 My thanks in Jesu's name.

- 3 Because he bought me with his blood,
 Into thy favour take,
And still be merciful and good
 To me, for Jesu's sake:
- 4 Throughout this day thy mercy show,
 And still thy child defend,
'Till all my spotless life below
 In heavenly glories end.

Hymn 77.
For the Evening.

- 1 Saviour, thou hast bestowed on me
 The blessing of the light,
And wilt my kind preserver be
 Through this approaching night;
- 2 Evil from me far off remove,
 That with thy favour blest,
Beneath the shadow of thy love
 I in thine arms may rest.
- 3 Thy gracious eye which never sleeps
 Is always fixed on man,
Thy love the slumb'ring children keeps
 From sorrow, fear, and pain.
- 4 Wherefore I safely lay me down,
 And trust myself to thee,
The Father's well-beloved Son,
 Whoever pray'st for me.

Hymn 78.

- 1 Hosanna to him who ruleth on high!
A world to redeem, he came from the sky;
Th' Almighty Creator (O how could it be?)
Appear'd in our nature, an infant like me.
- 2 Who all the bright train angelical made,
Subjected to man, his parents obeyed,
On sinners attended, their minister was,
And patiently ended his life on a cross.

- 3 O how shall I praise thy wonderful love?
Thy Spirit of grace send down from above,
If still the dear lover of children thou art,
My Saviour, discover thyself to my heart.

Hymn 79.

- 1 The children in their earliest days
To Jesus brought, are truly blest:
He folds them in his kind embrace,
He warms them in his tender breast.
- 2 One of those happy children, me,
Saviour, into thy arms receive,
Brought by my parents' prayers to thee,
O may I in thy kingdom live.
- 3 They tell me thou art good indeed,
And would'st to all thy grace impart;
Put then thy hands upon my head,
Put faith into my simple heart.
- 4 Thee may I for my portion choose,
To thee through life obedient prove,
And now obtain, and never lose
The blessing of my Saviour's love.

Hymn 80.

- 1 Jesus his own disciples chid
Who out of false esteem
The parents foolishly forbid
That brought their babes to him.
- 2 Methinks ev'n now I hear him say
In fervent charity,
"I will not have them kept away;
Bring all your babes to me."
- 3 Though men our simpleness despise,
Our Saviour doth maintain
They must be small in their own eyes,
If they with us would reign.

- 4 To little ones, and not to men,
Is grace and glory given,
Children they must become again,
Or never enter heaven.

Hymn 81.

- 1 Thee, Jesus, the Son
Of David I own,
By all heaven adored,
Thou art come from above, in the name of the Lord.
To the house I repair
Of thanksgiving and prayer,
With the children draw nigh,
And aloud in the temple hosanna I cry.
- 2 In my earliest hour
I acknowledge thy power,
Thy wisdom approve,
And am taught by my parents to pray for thy love:
Thee, an infant of days
With wonder I praise,
Thee the God over all
I confess, and on thee for salvation I call.
- 3 Let mercy attend,
My soul to defend
From offences and sins,
While I scarcely can tell what iniquity means:
But deliver thine own
From the evil unknown,
And assist me to cry
“Let me live to be good, or in innocence die!”

Hymn 82.

- 1 All glory to God,
Who on man hath bestowed
The unspeakable gift of his Son!
Little children we sing
At the birth of a King,
Who will give us a share of his throne.

- 2 His astonishing birth
 Brings peace upon earth,
And praise to his Father above,
 Who is now reconciled
 By that innocent child,
And his anger is turned into love.
- 3 For Immanuel's sake,
 Who our nature did take,
He is pleased with the children of men;
 And if Christ we believe,
 Will his rebels receive
To the arms of his mercy again.
- 4 By the Spirit of grace,
 We our Saviour embrace,
And expect he again will come down,
 Our souls to remove
 By the power of his love,
And with heavenly glory to crown.

Hymn 83.

Thou whom angel-choirs proclaim,
Hast bid the children chant thy name,
Loosen then the stammering tongue,
Listen to my artless song:
Now my infant voice I raise,
Lisp an unknown Saviour's praise,
And feebly thus begin to sing
Under the shadow of thy wing.

Hymn 84.

Lord, that I may sing to thee,
And make the sweetest melody,
Bid my soul in hymns aspire,
Echo to the psalmist's lyre;
Tune my heart to praise the Lamb,
(Jesus his harmonious name)
And when thou dost from earth remove,
Give me a golden harp above.

Hymn 85.

When Jesus darts his glorious light,
All heaven is ravished with the sight,
The cherubs strike their golden lyres,
The seraphs glow with brighter fires:
But when Jesus shows his face,
All are hushed and lost in praise!

Hymn 86.

- 1 In vain are children taught to pray,
Or praise a God unknown:
Christ is the true and living way,
And God and Christ are one.
- 2 Whene'er we think on God most high,
Whene'er his praise proclaim,
We think on him, who stooped to die,
We bow to Jesu's name.
- 3 My God in Jesus reconciled,
Declare thyself to me,
If still an uncorrupted child,
Yet still I know not thee.
- 4 To make my sinful nature pure,
Thy Spirit, Lord, impart,
And me from actual sin secure,
By dwelling in my heart.

Hymn 87.

O might I in my youthful days
Reflect on my Creator's grace,
Call on my heavenly Father's name,
Whose mercy made me what I am,
Whose love out of his bosom gave
His only Son, a world to save,
To buy, and wash me with his blood,
And bring my newborn soul to God.

Hymn 88.

- 1 Children have a right to sing
Praises to their Infant-King,
Tell how Christ the holy child
God and man hath reconciled.
- 2 Whom the heavens cannot contain,
Very God and very man,
God was in his infancy
Weak and ignorant like me.
- 3 Wherefore did he stoop so low?
Jesus, help my heart to know,
Thou who didst my flesh receive,
Unto me thy Spirit give.
- 4 Thus explain the mystery;
Then I shall be one with thee,
Then I shall above the sky
Endless hallelujahs cry.

Hymn 89.

- 1 To God the Creator of all
My earliest tribute I pay,
On him with humility call,
And promise his laws to obey:
I promise alas, but in vain,
Unless he his Spirit bestow,
From folly and sin to restrain,
And keep me wherever I go.
- 2 O Father of mercies, attend,
(Though now I in ignorance cry,)
And teach me on him to depend,
My Advocate there in the sky:
Whatever I ask in the name
Of Jesus, I hear, shall be done,
As due to that innocent Lamb,
As claimed by thine heavenly Son.

Hymn 90.

- 1 Let all that breathe, Jehovah praise,
Almighty all-creating Lord,
Let earth and heaven his power confess,
Brought out of nothing by his word!
He spake the word, and it was done,
The universe his word obeyed:
His word is his eternal Son,
And Christ the whole creation made.
- 2 Jesus the Lord and God most high,
Maker of all mankind and me,
Me thou hast formed to glorify,
To know, and love, and live for thee:
Wherefore to thee my heart I give,
(But thou must first bestow the power)
And if on earth for thee I live,
Thee I shall soon in heaven adore.

Hymn 91.

- 1 Who shall join the acclamation
Of that bright celestial choir,
While with rapt'rous exultation
All in songs of praise aspire?
Hallelujah
Sounds from every tuneful lyre.
- 2 I, if here I love my lover,
Here my heart to Jesus give,
When this mortal life is over,
Shall a harp and crown receive,
Hallelujah
Sing, as long as God shall live.

Hymn 92.

- 1 The judge of all shall soon come down,
Bright on his everlasting throne,
Summon the nations to his bar,
And I shall take my trial there.

- 2 Jesus, be now my friend with God,
And wash me in thy precious blood,
That at thy last appearance I
May shouting meet thee in the sky.

Hymn 93.

- 1 Happy beyond description he,
Who in the paths of piety
Loves from his birth to run:
Its ways are ways of pleasantness,
And all its paths are joy and peace,
An²⁵ heaven on earth begun.
- 2 If this felicity were mine,
I every other would resign
With just and holy scorn,
Cheerful and blithe my way pursue,
And with the promised land in view
Singing to God return.

Hymn 94.

- 1 Thou the great, eternal Lord,
Art high above our thought,
Worthy to be feared, adored
By those thy hands have wrought:
None can with thyself compare,
Thy glory fills both earth and sky:
We, and all thy creatures are
As nothing in thine eye.
- 2 Of thy great unbounded power
To thee the praise we give,
Infinitely great, and more
Than heart can e'er conceive:
When thou wilt to work proceed,
None thy purpose can withstand,
Frustrate the determined deed,
Or stay th' almighty hand.

²⁵“An” changed to “And” in 2nd edn. (1768) and following.

- 3 Thou, O God, art wise alone,
 Thy counsel doth excel,
Wonderful thy works we own,
 Thy ways unsearchable:
 Who can sound the mystery,
Thy judgments' deep abyss explain?
 Thou whose eyes in darkness see,
 And search the heart of man.
- 4 Thou the holy God and pure,
 Hatest iniquity,
Evil thou canst not endure,
 Or let it stay with thee:
 Who from sin refuse to turn,
Sinners with thee shall never dwell,
 But thy righteous wrath shall burn
 After their souls to hell.
- 5 Good thou art, and good thou dost,
 Thy mercies reach to all,
Chiefly those on thee who trust,
 And for thy mercies call:
 New they every morning are:
As fathers, when their children cry,
 Us thou dost in pity spare,
 And all our wants supply.
- 6 Mercy o'er thy works presides,
 Thy providence displayed
Still preserves, and still provides
 For all thy hands have made,
 Keeps with more distinguished care
The man that on thy love depends,
 Watches every numbered hair,
 And all his steps attends.
- 7 Who can sound the depths unknown
 Of thy redeeming grace,
Grace which gave thine only Son
 To save our ruined race!

Millions of transgressors poor
Thou hast for Jesu's sake forgiven,
Made them of thy favour sure,
And snatched from hell to heaven.

8 Millions more thou ready art
To save, and to forgive,
Every soul, and every heart
Of man thou wouldst receive:
Father, now accept of mine
Which now through Christ I offer thee,
Tell a child, in love divine,
That thou hast pardoned me.

Hymn 95.

1 O Father, I am but a child,
My body is made of the earth,
My nature alas, is defiled,
And a sinner I was from my birth;
Not worthy to lift up my face
To a God on his heavenly throne,
Yet allow me to pray for thy grace,
For without it I must be undone.

2 I cannot obey thy commands
Unassisted by grace from above;
No grace I deserve at thy hands,
Yet I hope to recover thy love:
Thy mercy is promised to all,
The giver of Jesus thou art,
And therefore attend to my call,
And discover his love to my heart.

Hymn 96.

1 To me thy compassion extend,
For the sake of thy heavenly Son,
From Satan and sin to defend,
And a world full of evil unknown:

An invisible enemy's power
Ever near to destroy me I have,
A lion intent to devour:
Let mercy be nearer to save.

- 2 That mercy I languish to feel,
If mercy infuse the desire,
My need of a Saviour reveal,
My soul with the hunger inspire:
O Father, an infant allure
In a way that I never have known,
And me by thy Spirit assure
That mercy and Jesus *are* one.

Hymn 97.
Thanksgiving.

- 1 Come, my companions dear,
With mine your voices raise,
Let us with heart sincere
Attempt our Saviour's praise,
And while our souls to heaven ascend,
Begin the song that ne'er shall end.
- 2 Of whom should children sing,
But of that holy child
Who to their heavenly King
Hath rebels reconciled?
Peace upon earth he doth bestow:
Rejoice in God revealed below.
- 3 Who earth and heaven commands
In years and wisdom grew,
'Till seized by wicked hands,
They wounded him and slew:
But in his blood our peace is sealed,
And by his wounds our souls are healed!
- 4 Then let us bless his name,
And thank him for his grace:
Worthy is Christ the Lamb
Of universal praise,

Praise be on him by all bestowed
Who lives, the one eternal God!

Hymn 98.

- 1 Meet and right it is, that I
Should my Maker glorify,
Born for this alone I am,
God to praise through Jesu's name:
Author of my life, receive
Praise the best a child can give.
- 2 Teach me, as I older grow,
Thee in Christ aright to know,
That I may thy blessings prize,
Bring thee Jesus sacrifice,
Thee with understanding praise,
Love, and serve thee all my days.

Hymn 99.

- 1 Praise the Father for his love,
Christ he sent us from above,
Publish the Redeemer's praise,
Bless the Spirit of his grace,
He reveals the Trinity,
Three in One, and One in Three.
- 2 Glory be to God alone,
One in Three, and Three in One,
God from whom all blessings spring
Every child of Adam sing,
Praise him all ye heavenly host,
Father, Son, and Holy-Ghost.

Hymn 100.

The Father above,
The Son of his love,
We adore with the Spirit of grace,
Till he bids us arise
To our thrones in the skies,
And eternity spend in his praise.