Charles Wesley Manuscript Verse in Various Methodist Sites and Research Collections

While the bulk of Charles Wesley’s manuscript verse is in the MARC in Manchester, the following additional sites hold scattered pieces. All of the sites have been extremely helpful in providing access to these materials and have granted permission to include them in this online collection. Details on the location of each particular item are given in the document where it is transcribed or noted.


“To the Honour of Handel” — “Not one in all his progeny,” Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse

Drew University, Methodist Library, Madison, New Jersey, USA

MS Drew
MS Sarah Wesley (1754)
“For J[ohn] H[enderson]” — noted in MS Henderson, 1–2

Duke University, Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Durham, North Carolina, USA

MS Hendrix
“After a Fall” — noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 191
“For the Church of England” — two hymns, noted in MS Miscellaneous Verse 1786
“We hear a Romish founder say” — in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse
“Wesley himself and friends betrays” — noted in MS Ordinations 1784, 1

Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Pitts Theological Library

Charles Wesley Family Papers (MSS 159), 4/75 — noted in MS Epistles
Charles Wesley Family Papers (MSS 159), 5/47 — in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse
MS Emory (CW Family Papers 5/1) — noted in MS Fish
“Epistle to Dr Ludlow” — noted in MS Nursery, 3
Letter to Sarah Gwynne Jr., March 1748 — in Verse in Manuscript Letters
Letter to Sarah Wesley, May 17, 1755 — in Verse in Manuscript Letters
Three JW manuscript translations from German — noted in CPH (1737), 26, 38, 56
JW, “To thee with heart and voice I sing” — in John Wesley’s Undisputed Verse

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary Library, Special Collections, Evanston, Illinois

MS drafts of 2 hymns (sheet numbered “21” on recto and “22” on verso, from an early CW notebook) — noted in HSP (1740), 54, 131
Harvard University, Houghton Library, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

“Written Dec. 7, 1779” – noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 243–44

Liverpool City Libraries, Liverpool, England

MS Miscellaneous Verse1786, pp. 25–28

The New Room, John Wesley’s Chapel, Bristol, England¹

“Christ Our Merciful High-priest” — Assorted Verse on 1784 Ordinations, 1–2
“Weary of all this wordy strife” — noted in published version: “Catholic Love” (1755)

Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Bridwell Library, Dallas, Texas, USA

“Father of Light” — in MS Miscellaneous Hymns (drafts), 16
“Hail the bright auspicious Day” — in Assorted Looseleaf Manuscript Verse
MS Baker
MS Death of Hannah Dewal (draft 1)
Letter to Mrs. Berkin, March 17, 1766 – in Verse in Manuscript Letters

University of California, Santa Barabara, Davidson Library, Santa Barbara, California, USA

“Prone to ill, adverse from good” — noted in MS Miscellaneous Verse (1786), 18

Wesley’s Chapel Museum, London, England

Letter to Mary Fletcher, 21 May 1785 — hymn noted in MS Miscellaneous Hymns, 187–88

Westminster College, Cambridge University, Cambridge, England²

MS Cheshunt

¹Special thanks to David Worthington, Manager of the New Room, for help in consulting these items.

²Special thanks to Revd Dr Janet Tollington, Director of The Cheshunt Foundation, for providing a copy of this manuscript, and permission to include it in this collection.