SHORTER
MORAVIAN HYMN
BOOK

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PREFACE

The Preface of the first Shorter Hymn Book of the Southern Province was written in 1862, far from home, on the beautiful, blue Mediterranean Sea. If the writer could have foreseen how useful this little book would become in various congregations, he would have been still happier than he was when he wrote as follows:

"The Church hopes, by means of this smaller hymn book, to make its children better acquainted with the spiritual treasures of the Moravian ritual. If they learn to love the Moravian hymns and hymns and music, they will be helped into a deeper and sweeter experience of the Christian life. They will love both their Savior and their Church better because of the faithful use, in congregations and Sunday Schools, of a book whose price brings it within everybody's reach."

All the copies of the first Shorter Hymn Book have long since been sold. Our Church has, in the meantime, more than doubled its membership. May we not hope for a still richer blessing on this new edition, somewhat enlarged and greatly improved. So we prayerfully send it forth, waiting for it to take the blessing which has been set forth in the Preface of every Moravian hymn book since 1789—

"May all who see these hymns, experience at all times the blessed effects of complying with the Apostle Paul's injunction (Eph. 5:19): 'Speak ye every man with wisdom unto his wife. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father through Him.' Yea, may they anticipate, while here below, though in a humbler and imperfect strain, the song of the blessed above, who being redeemed out of every kindred and tongue and people..."
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## THE LITANY

All standing, the Minister shall say and the congregation respond:

1. **Lord have mercy upon us.**
2. **Christ have mercy upon us.**
3. **Lord have mercy upon us.**
4. **Christ hear us.**

O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth.

Unto thee do we give thanks for thy great and mighty acts of mercy toward us.

I will offer to thee the sacrifices of thanksgiving; and will call upon the name of the Lord.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens.

O Lord, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

Then shall all bowed, and say:

**Most Holy and Righteous God, our Saviour,**

We acknowledge our transgressions.

**For we are sinners, and therein have sinned still,**

We have deemed and have committed iniquity, and have done Amollly.

The good that we know to do we have not done; And in all our works we have been unprofitable, perverted, and have come short of thy glory.

**Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of thy name,**

and deliver us, and purge away our sins, for thy name's sake: Amen.

Then with the Lord: I, even I, am he that hath made all thy transgressions pass for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins: Go, and sin no more.
Then the congregation shall sing, all standing:  
O Lord, have mercy on us:  
Then shall the congregation sing, all standing:  
O Lord, have mercy on us.

Then shall the congregation sing, all standing:  
The Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was
  conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
And was, according to his will, crucified, dead, and  
buried. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right  
hand of God, the Father Almighty; from hence he shall  
come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the  
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting:  
Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy  
Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall  
be, world without end:  
Amen.

Lord God, our Father which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive  
those that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from  
evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the  
glory, forever and ever:  
Amen.

Lord God, Son, then Saviour of the world,  
Be praised, now and ever.  
Lord God, Holy Ghost,  
Amen, now and ever.  

Then shall the Minister continue, the congregation  
repeating:  
From all sin,  
From all evil,  
Preserve us, gracious Lord and God.
Most holy Lord and God,
Holy, Almighty God,
Holy and most merciful Saviour,
These eternal God,
Grant that we may never
Love the comforts of thy death:
Have mercy, O Lord.

Instead of this hymn may be sung the following:

May we a grateful name retain
Of thy redeeming love;
And live below the scenes that hope
To live with thee above.
Then have and labor for thy church,
Unequal all the children of God as one spirit;
Send faithful laborers into thy harvest.
Give spirit and power to preach thy word;
Hinder all ambitious and offensive:
Put far from thy people all desirous
Ising back all that have read or that are desired:

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.
Great love and unity to all our congregations:
Give to our bishops and ministers soundness of doctrine
And holiness of life, and preserve them thence;
Help all others to reuse well, and may every steward of
Churchspiritual or temporal be faithful not only in that
Which is good, but also in that which is least.
Preserve and spread every truth through the truth;
Great love to all of us, in every age and station, may enjoy
The powerful and sanctifying spirits of thy holy humanity,
And make us shade before thee in soul and body.
Let our children be brought up in thy nurture and admonition:

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.
Supply, O Lord, we pray thee, all the wants of thy people;
Let none strengthen himself with the affluence of this life,
But may all our labors of body and mind be balanced into thee;
Bless the sweat of the brow and faithfulness in business;
Help us to use thy gifts aright, and never to forget that
It is more blessed to give than to receive.

For the sake of that grace which we have been, may we,
As much as lie in us, live peacefully with all men;
Teach us to bless them that curse us, and do good to them that hate us;

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Have mercy upon our sinners and persecutors, and
May not this sin in their charge:
Hear us, gracious Lord and God.
O Lord, the help of Israel, and the Redeemer of all nations,
Hear mercy on thy ancient servant, people, deliver
Them from their blindness;
O that Israel might live before thee:
Preserve the remnants of all thy servants to spread thy gospel:
Blow us and all other Christian congregations gathered
Among the heathens;
Keep them in the steps of these:
Hear us, gracious Lord and God.
O praise the Lord, all ye nations;
Praise him, all ye people.
Watch zealously over all government:
Establish them in truth and righteousness, and give them
Thoughts of peace;
Bliss the President of the United States, and both Houses of Congress, the Governor and Legislature of this Commonwealth, and all others that are in authority; and grant us to
Lead under them a quiet and peaceable life, to all godliness
And honesty;
Teach us to submit ourselves to every ordinance of man
For thy sake; and to seek the peace of the places where we dwell.
Give prosperity, O Lord, to this land, and subversion to all the people:

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

A Prayer in times of war.
Grant, O Lord, unto the President of the United States,
In these times of danger, thy gracious counsel, that in all things
He may appear himself the father of the people,
Be thou the prince protector of these States, and all
Our fellow-citizens in all parts of the world;
Turn the hearts of our enemies, defeat every evil design
Against us, and continue to show thy power against these
Dreadful Princes as thou hast done in days past;
Cause us to bow down before thee, to retrace our steps,
And to acknowledge with contrite hearts, that it is of thy
Mercies that we are not reckoned;
Speak to thy messenger the effusion of human blood,
And make it dead and stare to money;

In this soul, put into the hearts of the rulers of the nations thoughts of these, that we may see it soon established, to the glory of
Hear us, gracious Lord and God.
DOXOLOGY

O thou preserver of men, Watch over those who travel by land or sea; Send help to all that are in deeper, tribulation, or distress; Strengthen and uphold those who suffer persecution for the sake of the gospel; Defend and provide for innumerable children, and widows, and all who are desolate and afflicted; Be the support of the aged; Make the bed of the sick, and, in the midst of suffering let them feel that thou livest thee; Enable the dying to put their trust in thee, as the propitiation for the sins of the whole world: Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Have mercy, O Lord, on thy whole creation; Hasten the day when the kingdom of this world shall become the kingdom of thy Lord and of thy Christ; and may we be accounted worthy to stand before him. Here shall the congregation rise, and remain standing until the close of the Litany.

TEXT 78.

Lord, for the coming to prepare; May we to meet thee without fear At all times ready be: In faith and love preserve us sound; O let us day and night be found Waiting with joy to welcome thee.

Come in everlasting fellowship with the church triumphant, and let us rest together in thy presence from our labor: Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

O Christ, Almighty God, Have mercy upon us.

O thou Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world, Manifest thyself to us.

O thou Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world, Give unto us thy peace.

O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Amen.

The Salvation, the Minister shall say, or chant, and the congregation respond.

Unto the Lamb that was slain,

And unto the throne of God and of the Lamb, and to the four creatures round about the throne, and the twenty-four elders.

O God, the Father of glory, the only wise God, the almighty, who hast given thy Son Jesus Christ to be the light of the world and to guide us on our way;

TEXT 29.

The Lord is my Shepherd, I know: He is the Lord: therefore I shall not be moved.

TEXT 11.

Cast thy burden on the Lord, and he shall support thee.

TEXT 21.

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee; The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee; The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace; In the name of Jesus: Amen.
The Solemnization of Matrimony

The person to be married shall stand before the Minister with their witnesses, the man on the right hand and the woman on the left. The Minister shall then say:

Dear Beloved! We are here assembled, in the presence of God and these witnesses, to join together this man (here he shall mention the man’s name) and this woman (here he shall mention the woman’s name) in holy matrimony, which is commanded by the Apostle to be honorable among all men, and, therefore, it is not to be entered into hastily, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God.

In holy matrimony the man and woman are one flesh. This union is made by the consent of the parties, not by the act of the minister, but by the act of the parties themselves, who are the principals in their own affairs.

That, under the New Covenant, the marquised state has been abolished, to be an emblem of Christ and his church;

That the husband, as the head of the wife, should love her, even as Christ also loved the church, and that the wife should respect his own husband in the Lord, as the church is subject unto Christ;

That, in consequence, Christians thus united together, should live one another, even in the Lord, for faithful unto the other, and mutual, and never forsake one another.

Let this holy estate then be holy, and let this name be holy, for which they are not lawfully joined together, according to the word of God.

The Solemnization of Matrimony

And the laws of this State, let him now speak, or else he shall forever forego his peace.

Then the Minister shall say to the man, addressing him by name:

Will you have this woman (here he shall name her) to be your wedded wife, to live together after God’s ordinance, in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you love her, honor her, and cherish her, through all her days, according to the usage of God, approved by the apostles, and in every respect, a faithful ChristianWS? If ye both shall live! If this is thy desire, then answer and say, "I will."

Then shall the woman answer and say:

I will.

The like manner the Minister shall say to the woman, addressing her by name:

Will you have this man (here he shall name him) here present to be your wedded husband, to live together after God’s ordinance, in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you love him, honor him, and cherish him, through all the days of your life, according to the usage of God, approved by the apostles, and in every respect, a faithful Christian wife? If ye both shall live! If this is thy desire, then answer and say, "I will."

Then shall the woman answer and say:

I will.

If both do so, let the Minister say:

Take ye both this ring and put it upon the finger of this woman and say:

With this ring I thee wed.

Then shall the Minister say:

For so much, as ye have consented to live together in holy affection, and have witnessed the same before God and the world, we certify you, that ye enter upon the estate of matrimony in the name of the Lord, and that ye shall stand according to the precepts of his holy word.

Let us pray:

O Lord, our God, who through the institution and blessed the estate of matrimony, sanctifying the same, under the law, shall not be an emblem of Christ and his church, but be ye therefore, graciously to look upon these two persons, who are about to be united in holy wedlock. Grant, that they may live together, and continue in this estate, in thy name. Honor their houses with thy favor, and enable them to be faithful unto the other, and thus to live together in perfect love and peace. Sanctify and bless their union, and vouchsafe unto them the guidance of thy Holy Spirit, and teach them to do that which is well pleasing in thy sight, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.
The Burial of the Dead

The following may be used in the house of mourning, previously to the burial of the dead, or, at the discretion of the Minister, before the address in the church. All standing, the Minister shall say and the congregation respond:

O Lord our God, in whom we live, and move, and have our being; have mercy upon us.

Heavenly Father, accept us thy children in thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who came forth from thee, and came into the world, was made flesh, and dwelt among us, took on him the form of a servant, and hath redeemed us by his blood from all sin and from death, with his holy and precious blood, and with his innocent suffering and dying: to the end that we should be his own, and in his kingdom live under him and serve him, in eternal righteousness, innocence, and happiness; forevermore, as he, being none from the dead, liveth and reigneth, world without end. Amen.

Then shall the Minister say one, or more, of the following texts:

Man that is born of woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down; he florieth as a shadow, and is cut off.

The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

As teacheth children, Jesus saith: Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

Thus saith the Lord: Behold, I make all things new, saith the Lord, to make all things new, saith the Lord, to make all things new. For whether we be dead or alive, whether we walk or sleep, the Lord Jesus shall give us an answer; for ye are gone out of the Lord's house, and the Lord Jesus shall give us an answer.

O Lord, what shall we fear? our hope is in thee. Like as a father loveth his children, so the Lord loveth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame, heremembereth that we are dust.

But let the wicked be put to everlasting destruction. He divideth the fatherless and widow.

The Lord shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. The joy of the Lord shall be their crown, and their rejoicing shall be in the sight of the Lord. Blessed be the God of gods, the Lord God, who liveth and reigneth, world without end. Amen.

Then shall a hymn be sung, or a psalm be recited, or a short discourse, at the discretion of the Minister.

At the prayers for the dead, or for the dead, or for the dead, the Minister shall say, the congregation responding:

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Amen. Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, hear us. Amen.

Then shall the Minister, with the people, say:

The Lord God, our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

May the God of the universe Almighty God, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, be with you all. Amen.
THE WORD OF GOD

1

TUNE 14.

Father of mercy! in thy word
What endless glory dwellest thou!
Forever by thy name adored
For this celestial treasure.

2. Here the Redeemer's welcome voice
Speaks heavenly peace around,
And life and everlasting joys
Attend the blissful sound.

3. Oh, may these heavenly pages be
My ever dear delight,
And still new beauties may I see,
And still increasing light.

4. Divine instructor, gracious Lord,
Be thee forever near;
Teach me to love thy sacred word,
And view my Saviour there.

—Anne Steele.

2

TUNE 16.

From the doctrines I'll never waver,
In the holy scriptures stored;
O What sweetness do I savor
In such sacred covenant.

2. And if I myself examine,
While the book I face me hold,
To each truth my heart with amen,
One the other deck awhile.

3. Speak, O Lord, thy servant heareth
With deep awe attentively;
What thy holy word proclaims
Sail my rule and practice be.

—F. W. Shimer.
3 Tune 14.
How precious is the book divine,
By inspiration given!
Bright as a lamp its doctrines shine,
To guide our souls to heaven.

2. Its light, descending from above,
Our gloomy world doth cheer,
Displaying a Saviour's boundless love,
And bringing his glories near.

3. It sweetly cheers our drooping hearts,
In this dark vale of tears;
Life, light and joy, it still imparts,
And quells our rising fears.

4. This lamp, through all the tedious night
Of life, shall guide our way,
Till we behold the closer light
Of an eternal day.

—J. C. FAWCETT

4 Tune 121
O Word of God Incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchangeable, unchangeable,
O Light of all the living.

We praise thee for the radiance
That shineth on the hallowed page;
A balm to our infirmities,
Shines on from age to age.

2. The Church from her dear Master
Received the gift divine,
And still that light she lifteth
O'er all the earth to shine.

It is the golden candle
Where gems of truth are stored,
It is the beacon-shine picture
Of Christ the living Word.

3. Oh, make the Church, dear Saviour,
A lamp of burnished gold,
To bear before the nations
They true light as of old;
Oh, teach thy wandering pilgrims
By this their path to tracer;
'Till clouds and darkness clothe,
They see thee face to face.

—WILLIAM WASHBROOK HOW.

5
Break thou the bread of life,
Dear Lord, to me;
As thou didst break the loaves
Beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page
I seek thee, Lord;
My spirit pants for thee,
O living Word.

2. Bless thou the truth, dear Lord,
To me—to me—
As thou didst bless the bread
By Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease,
All weariness;
And I shall find my peace,
My All in all.

3. Thou art the bread of life,
O Lord, to me,
Thy holy Word, the truth
The seventh seal;
Give me to eat and live
With thee above;
Touch me to love thy truth,
For thou art love.

—M. A. LATROUX

THE HOLY TRINITY

6 Tune 22
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

—THOMAS KEN.
7  
Come, thou Almighty King!  
Help us thy name to sing,  
Help us in praise;  
Father! all glory,  
Our all-victorious,  
Come, and enjoy, over us,  
Ancient of days!

2.  
Come, thou incarnate Word!  
God, in thy mighty word;  
Our prayer attend;  
Come, and thy people bless,  
And give thy word success;  
Spirit of holiness!  
On us descend.

3.  
Come, Holy Comforter!  
Thy sacred wings, whom.  
In this glad hour:  
Those, who almighty art,  
Now rule in every heart,  
And seer from us depart,  
Spirit of power.

4.  
To the great one in three,  
The highest praises be;  
Hence, everyone!  
His sovereign mercy  
May in thy grace be.  
And love and adore.  
—Charles Wesley.

8  
May the grace of Christ our Saviour,  
And the Father’s boundless love,  
With the Holy Spirit’s favor.  
Rest upon us from above!  
Thus may we abide in union  
With each other and the Lord:  
And possess, in sweet communion,  
Joys which earth can not afford.
—John Newton.

9  
Tune 144.  
O’er heavenly Father, source of love,  
To thee our hearts we raise:  
The immortal power is prove,  
And gladly sing thy praise.

2.  
Lord Jesus, things we wish to be,  
Our sacrifice receive,  
Made and preserved, and saved by thee;  
To thee ourselves we give.

3.  
Come, Holy Ghost, the Saviour’s love  
Shed in our hearts abroad:  
So shall we ever live and grow,  
And be with Christ in God.

4.  
Honor to the almighty three;  
And everlasting one;  
All glory to the Father be,  
The Spirit, and the Son.

—Charles Wesley.

10  
Tune 144.  
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise  
to thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty;  
God is three Persons, blessed Trinity!

2.  
Holy, holy, holy, all the saints adore thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around  
the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before  
thee,  
Which were and art and evermore shalt be.

3.  
Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,  
Though the eyes of sinful man thy glory  
Cannot see;  
O, how dost thou hide? there is none beside thee,  
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

4.  
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy Name, in  
earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty;  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

—Reginald Heber.
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2. Thou art coming to a king,
Large petitions with thee bring;
For his grace and power are such,
None can ever ask too much.

2. Lord, I come to thee for rest,
Take possession of my breast;
There thy blood-winged right mainsale,
And without a cruelugh.

4. While I am a pilgrim here,
Let my love my spy's charm bear;
As my guide, my guard, my friend,
Lead me to my journey's end.

—JOHN NEWTON.

146
Now let us praise the Lord
With body, soul, and spirit,
Who doth such wonderful things
Beyond our sense and merit;
Who from our mother's arm
And earliest infancy,
Hath done great things for us;
Praise him eternally.

2. O gracious God, bestow
On us, while here remaining,
An ever-cheerful mind;
Thy peace be ever reigning;
 Preserve us in true faith
And Christian holiness.
That when we go from hence
We may behold thy face.

—MARTIN RINKART.

147
Sing hallelujah, praise the Lord,
Sing with a cheerful voice;
Exalt our God with one accord,
And in his name rejoice.

No fear to sing, thou girded host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;
Until in realms of endless light
Your praises shall unite.

2. There we to all eternity
Shall join the angelic lay,
And sing in perfect harmony
To God our Saviour's praise;
He hath redeemed us by his blood,
And made us kings and priests to God;
For us, for us, the Lamb was slain;
Praise ye the Lord! Amen.

—J. SWETYER.

148
Come, we that love the Lord!
And let our joys be known;
Join in a song with sweet accord,
And thus surround the throne.

Chorus:
We're marching to Zion,
Beautiful, beautiful Zion,
We're marching upward to Zion,
The beautiful city of God.

2. Let those refuse to sing,
That never knew our God;
But servants of the Heavenly King
May speak their joys aloud.

3. The men of grace have found
A glory brighter than gold;
They know not what is gold;
They know the joy of soul.

4. The hills of Zion yield
A thousand sacred sweetness,
Before we reach the heavenly fields,
Or walk the golden streets.

5. Then let our songs abound,
And every tear be dry,
When passing through Lamman's ground,
To fairer worlds on high.

—ISAAC WATTS.

149
Come, thou found of every blessing!
Take my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of gladst praise;
Teach me some melodious strain,
Sung by rapturous tenors shown;
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.
91

TUNE 157.

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down!

2. Breathe, oh, breathe thy living Spirit
Into every troubled breast.

3. Finish then thy new creation:
Pure and blameless let us be;

4. Jesus makes my heart rejoice,
Fills my soul with sweet delight.

5. Trusting his word, I now depend
On the Shepherd of my soul.

—LOUISE Y. HAYN.

93

TUNE 151.

In heavenly love abiding,
No change my heart shall fear.

8. Whoever he may guide me,
No want shall turn me back;

9. Green pastures are before me,
Which yet I have not seen.

—Anna Lavinia Waring