History of Hymns: "Let There Be Peace on Earth" by C. Michael Hawn

"Let There Be Peace on Earth" Jill Jackson and Sy Miller

The folksong movement of the 1950s, '60s and '70s produced many songs known for their ease of singing, straightforward texts and prophetic messages. Sy Miller (1908-1971) and his wife Jill Jackson-Miller (1913-1995) collaborated to produce a song that has become a signature composition devoted to world peace and harmony among peoples.

In an archival interview aired on David Freudberg's National Public Radio program Humankind, Jill Jackson talked about her background and the context of the song.

"When I attempted suicide [in 1944] and I didn't succeed," she said, "I knew for the first time unconditional love—which God is. You are totally loved, totally accepted, just the way you are. In that moment I was not allowed to die, and something happened to me, which is very difficult to explain. I had an eternal moment of truth, in which I knew I was loved, and I knew I was here for a purpose."

This realization was followed by years of exploring her spiritual nature and her relationship with God. Jackson discovered her love for writing, and began writing songs with Sy Miller after they married in 1949.

In 1955, she wrote the lyrics for "Let There Be Peace on Earth" while her husband wrote the melody. The song was introduced at a California retreat to a group of young people who were from a wide variety of religious, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. The young people had come together for a weeklong experience devoted to developing friendship and understanding through education, discussion and working together. The song's focus on peace and God made it easy to cross many boundaries.

Sy Miller wrote about the effect of the song: "One summer evening in 1955, a group of 180 teenagers of all races and religions, meeting at a workshop high in the California mountains locked arms, formed a circle and sang a song of peace. They felt that singing the song, with its simple basic

sentiment—'Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me'—helped to create a climate for world peace and understanding.

"When they came down from the mountain, these inspired young people brought the song with them and started sharing it. And, as though on wings, 'Let There Be Peace on Earth' began an amazing journey around the globe. It traveled first, of course, with the young campers back to their homes and schools, churches and clubs."

Miller noted that the song was then shared in all 50 states at school graduations, PTA meetings, holiday gatherings, celebrations of Brotherhood Week, Veterans Day, Human Rights Day and United Nations Day. Kiwanis clubs sang it, as well as 4-H clubs, United Auto Workers, the American Legion, the B'nai B'rith and the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

The song was taped, copied, printed in songbooks and passed by word of mouth. Eventually it spread overseas, sung by Maoris in New Zealand and Zulus in Africa.

The song has been recorded by a host of vocal artists including Tennessee Ernie Ford, Pat Boone, Mahalia Jackson, Johnny Mathis and Placido Domingo.

It received the George Washington Honor Medal from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge for "Outstanding achievement in helping to bring about a better understanding of the American Way of Life." The National Conference of Christians and Jews has also honored the composers with the Brotherhood Award.

In 2009 Random House published "Let There Be Peace on Earth" as a children's book.

Ministries, Discipleship. "History of Hymns: 'Let There Be Peace on Earth.'" Discipleship Ministries, www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/history-of-hymns-let-there-be-peace-on-earth.

# He'll Be Back

"You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. John 14:28-29 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 14:23-29



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AWAY	GREATER	AFRAID	BELIEVE	HOME
HEART	TEACH	FATHER	OBEY	BACK
PEACE	GLAD	COMING	GOING	LOVE

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## Order of Service

Alleluía

ove Has Come

Let There Be Peace on Farth

Acts 16:9-15

John 14:23-29

Psalm 67

Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

Call to Worship

Processional Hymn Opening Prayers First esson

Second esson Sequence Hymn

Gospel

Sermon

The Nicene Creed Prayers of the People

The Peace

Announcements

Offertory Hymn

Sanctus

Fr. Rob Cornelison

You are Worthy of My Praise The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer The Breaking of Bread

Communion Hymn

In the Hands of God Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Christ for the World We Sing

l et There Be Peace on Farth

All baptized Christians are welcome to come to the Lord's Table. If you have a need or you wish to stand in for someone with a need, please come to the side altar where someone will pray with you.

### Preparation Devotional ~ June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Acts 16:16-34 Psalm 97 Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 John 17:20-26 The Collect

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

# Servant Ministry

Today

Reader: Helga Costello Greeter: Brad Sylvester Intercessor: Walt Sicard Chalice: Gary Myers Host: Sundae Sunday Altar Guild: Carol Bailey & Kim Maxwell Tellers: Todd Brugh & Helga Costello

Next Week

Greeter: Walt Sicard Reader: Tom Jager Intercessor: Lynne Maxwell Chalice: Walt Sicard Host: Susan & Gary Katt Altar Guild: Dawn Darling Tellers: Ron Darling & Mark | ewis

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.  $\sim 1$  Peter 4:10

## HTAC This Week

Wednesday 5/29

Men's Group Walt Sicard Car Co......6:00 am

#### hursday *5/3*0

Women's Bible Study HTAC ......9:30 am

Family the Week
 Tom and Laura Jager

Weekly Giving Last Sunday's Attendance: 20 Weekly Need: \$1,745.19 Last Sunday's Offering: \$176.19

YTD Need: \$34,903.80 YTD Offerings: \$27,954.61 YTD Difference: **-\$5,204** 

- Picnic in the Park venue/name change. Picnic at the Parish will begin Wednesday, June 12th, at 6:00 PM rain or shine. We will gather at Holy Trinity. Bring your own picnic and tableware. Coals will be fired up for your grill-able fare. These Wednesday evening gatherings are a relaxing and joy filled time for fellowship with one another. They have also presented us with an opportunity to show and share the love of Christ with others in the neighborhood. Hope to see you there!
- June 23<sup>rd</sup> ~ Church Cookout following Sunday's service. Sign up to bring food or yard games and enjoy an afternoon of grilling and fun in the sun!
- Gals at Lunch plans to meet this Thursday, May 30th at 12:15 at Six Chicks Diner. Idy DeVinney will be the hostess this time. Gals, please plan to join in for good food and fellowship!



Holy Trinity Anglican Church Making Disciples by Being Disciples



Sixth Sunday of Easter May 26, 2019

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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