

Words for Hymns 20th September 2020 -

St. Matthew

Lord of the dance

(I danced in the morning)

TiS 242 Tune: Lord of the dance

1. I danced in the morning
when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon
and the stars and the sun;
and I came down from heaven
and I danced on the earth,
at Bethlehem I had my birth:

Chorus

*Dance then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the dance,
said he;
and I'll lead you all
wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all
in the dance, said he.*

2. I danced for the scribe
and the pharisee,
but they would not dance
and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen,
for James and John,
they came with me
and the dance went on:

Chorus

3. I danced on the Sabbath
and I cured the lame:
the holy people
said it was a shame.
They whipped
and they stripped
and they hung me high
and they left me there
on a cross to die:

Chorus

4. I danced on a Friday
when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance
with the devil on your back.
They buried my body
and they thought I'd gone;
but I am the dance
and I still go on:

Chorus

5. They cut me down
and I leapt up high,
I am the life
that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you
if you'll live in me:
I am the Lord
of the dance, said he:

Chorus

*Sydney Bertram Carter 1915-2004 alt.
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Come as you are

TiS 693 Tune: Come as you are

1. 'Come as you are: that's how I want you.
Come as you are; feel quite at home,
close to my heart, loved and forgiven.
Come as you are: why stand alone?
2. 'No need to fear, love sets no limits;
no need to fear, love never ends;
don't run away shamed and disheartened,
rest in my love, trust me again.
3. 'I came to call sinners, not just the righteous;
I came to bring peace, not to condemn.
Each time you fail to live by my promise,
why do you think I'd love you the less?
4. 'Come as you are; that's how I love you;
come as you are, trust me again.
Nothing can change the love that I bear you;
all will be well, just come as you are.'

*Deirdre Browne (1936-)
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Come down, O Love divine

TiS 398 Tune: Down Ampney

1. Come down, O Love divine,
seek now this soul of mine,
and visit it with your own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.
2. There let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let your glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
3. Let holy charity
my outer garment be,
and lowliness become my inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and for its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.
4. And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till we become the place
in which the Holy Spirit makes her dwelling.

Bianco de Siena (d.1434)tr. Richard Littledale (1833-1890) alt.

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Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

TiS 580 Tune: Mannheim

1. Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing
if our God our Father be.
2. Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe:
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.
3. Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

James Edmeston (1791-1867) alt.

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At the name of Jesus

TiS 231 Tune: Camberwell

1. At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of glory now:
this the Father's pleasure
that we call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.
2. Humbled for a season
to receive a name
from the lips of sinners
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious
when from death he passed.
3. In your hearts enthrone him,
there let him subdue
all that is not holy,
all that is not true.
He is God the Saviour,
he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped,
trusted and adored.
4. When this same Lord Jesus
shall return again
in his Father's glory,
there with him to reign,
then may we adore him,
all before him bow,
as our hearts confess him
King of glory now.

Caroline Maria Noel (1817-77) alt.

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