

♪♪ Hymn lyrics: ♪♪ for August 2, 2020
Three Hymns about bread, set to American folk melodies.

♪ Hymn 1

TAKE MY GIFTS

1 Take my gifts and let me love you,
God who first of all loved me,
gave me light and food and shelter,
gave me life and set me free,
now because your love has touched me,
I have love to give away;
now the bread of love is rising,
loaves of love to multiply!

3 Take whatever I can offer--
gifts that I have yet to find,
skills that I am slow to sharpen,
talents of the hand and mind,
things made beautiful for others
in the place where I must be:
take my gifts and let me love you,
God who first of all loved me.

Lyrics: Shirley Erena Murray, 1991
Tune: "Holy Manna," American Folk Tune, first collected
and published in 1825 by William Moore

♪ Hymn 2

O THOU WHO THIS MYSTERIOUS BREAD...

1 O Thou who this mysterious bread
didst in Emmaus break,
return, herewith our souls to feed,
and to thy followers speak.

2 Unseal the volume of thy grace,
apply the gospel word;
open our eyes to see thy face,
our hearts to know the Lord.

4 Enkindle now the heavenly zeal,
and make thy mercy known,
and give our pardoned souls to feel
that God and love are one.

Lyrics: Charles Wesley, 1745
Music: "Land of Rest," American Folk Melody, Arr. Annabel
Morris Buchanan, 1938;
(Harmonies used in the 2nd verse by Charles Webb, 1988)

♪ Hymn 3

PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS

1 Praise the one who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light.
Praise the one who frees the prisoners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the Gospel,
Healing every dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands
With the very bread of peace.

3 Praise the one true love incarnate:
Christ who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose for many
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory,
Praise the One who makes us one.

Lyrics: Rusty Edwards, 1987
Music: "Nettleton," or "Halleluiah," American Folk
Melody, first collected in 1813 by John Wyeth

George Wiese,
Organ: J. Estey, 1874; Style 21
Cottage Organ.