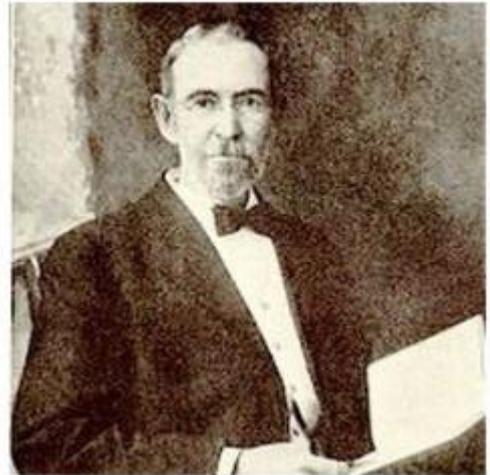


Higher Ground

Johnson Oatman, Jr., 1856-1922, American. His father was an excellent singer, and young Johnson liked sitting next to him and singing in church. He joined the Methodist Episcopal Church and was licensed to preach, and he served as a local preacher. He worked with his father in the mercantile business until his father's death, when he changed careers and sold insurance. He wrote more than five thousand hymns.



HIGHER GROUND

Charles H. Gabriel, 1856-1932, born on a farm in Iowa. Neighbors used to gather in the family home to sing, and Gabriel accompanied them on a reed organ. He became a music teacher and moved to San Francisco to become Sunday school music director at Grace Methodist Church. He moved to Chicago and became a music editor for the Homer Rodeheaver, Hope, and E.O. Excell publishing companies. Total number of his compositions is over seven thousand.



Musical notation for the hymn "Higher Ground". The score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The lyrics are as follows:

1. I'm press - ing	on	the up - ward	way,	New heights I'm
2. My heart has	no	de - sire to	stay	Where doubts a -
3. I want to	live	a - bove the	world,	Though sa - tan's
4. I want to	scale	the ut - most	height,	And catch a

1. gain - ing ev - ery day; Still pray - ing as I on - ward bound,
 2. rise and fears dis - may; Though some may dwell where these a - bound,
 3. darts at me are hurled; For faith has caught a joy - ful sound,
 4. gleam of glo - ry bright; But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found,

1. "Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground."
 2. My prayer, my aim is high - er ground. Lord, lift me
 3. The song of saints on high - er ground.
 4. "Lord, lead me on the high - er ground."

up, and let me stand By faith, on heav - en's ta - ble - land; A high - er
 plane than I have found, Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground.

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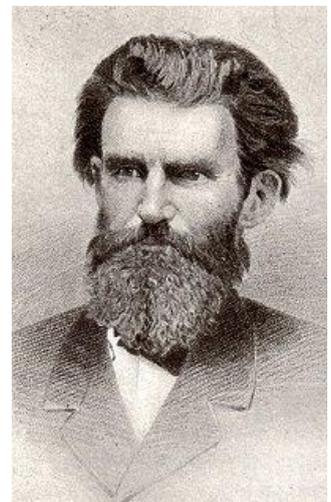
Sweet hour of prayer

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William Walford, 1772-1850, English. Walford was blind, and became a Congregational minister. He spoke the words to a Rev. Thomas Salmon, who copied the words and sent them to *The Observer* for possible publication.

SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER

William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868, American. He studied with Lowell Mason in Boston, then moved to Brooklyn, New York where he led enormous Sunday school music programs (1000 children!) and manufactured pianos. He is best known for the tune to "Jesus loves me, this I know."



1. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, That calls me from— a
 2. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, Thy wings shall my— pe -
 3. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, May I thy con - so -

1. world of care, And bids me at my Fa - ther's throne Make
 2. ti - tion bear To Him whose truth and faith - ful - ness En -
 3. la - tion share, Till from Mount Pis - gah's loft - y height I

1. all my wants— and wish - es known. In sea - sons of dis -
 2. gage the wait - ing soul to bless; And since He bids me
 3. view my home— and take my flight: This robe of flesh I'll

1. tress and grief My soul has of - ten found re - lief.
 2. seek His face, Be - lieve His word and trust His grace.
 3. drop, and rise To seize the ev - er - last - ing prize.

1. And oft es - caped the tempt - er's snare By
 2. I'll cast on Him my ev - 'ry care, And
 3. And shout, while pass - ing through the air, "Fare -

1. thy re - turn, sweet hour of prayer.
 2. wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.
 3. well, fare - well, sweet hour of prayer!"

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I need thee every hour

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Annie S. Hawks, 1835-1918, American poet and gospel hymnist. She attended public schools, but never graduated. She was an avid reader. By the age of 14 she was submitting poems to local newspapers. She married banker Charles Hawks in 1857 or 1859, and they moved to Brooklyn, NY, where they attended Robert Lowry's church.

This is her most famous hymn. By the time of her death it had been translated into more languages than any other hymn.



I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR

Robert Lowry, 1826-1899, American. He was interested in music from a young age. He became active as a Sunday school teacher and chorister. He became a pastor in 1851. Perhaps his best-known hymn is "Shall we gather at the river."

Lowry asked Hawks for some texts, and he supplied some tunes.



1. I need thee ev - 'ry hour, Most gra - cious.
 2. I need thee ev - 'ry hour, Stay thou near.
 3. I need thee ev - 'ry hour, In joy or.
 4. I need thee ev - 'ry hour, Teach me thy.

1. Lord; No ten - der voice like thine Can peace af - ford.
 2. by; Temp - ta - tions lose their power When thou art nigh.
 3. pain; Come quick - ly and a - bide, Or life is vain.
 4. will, And thy rich prom - is - es In me ful - fill.

I need thee, O I need thee, Ev - 'ry hour I need thee; O
 bless me now, my sav - ior, I come to thee.

+++

We'll understand it better by and by

Charles A. Tindley, 1851-1933, American. His father was a slave and his mother was free. When his mother died, he was taken to his mother's sister to keep him free. He was largely self-taught and learned to read on his own. While working as a sexton at a Philadelphia church he completed a correspondence course to become a Methodist minister. His church grew rapidly and the relocated to another church building, outgrew that one, and built a new church named Tindley Temple. That church grew to 10,000 members.

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BY AND BY

Also by Tindley.

1. We are of - ten tossed and driv'n on the rest - less sea of time,
 2. We are of - ten des - ti - tute of the things that life de - mands,
 3. Tri - als dark on ev - 'ry hand, and we can - not un - der - stand,
 4. Temp - ta - tions, hid - den snares of - ten take us un - a - wares,

1. Som-ber skies and howl - ing tem-pest oft suc - ceed a bright sun-shine;
 2. Want of food and want of shel-ter, thirst - y hills and bar - ren lands;
 3. All the ways that God would lead us to that bless - ed prom-ised land;
 4. And our hearts are made to bleed for many a thought-less word or deed;

1. In that land of per - fect day, when the mists have rolled a - way,
 2. We are trust - ing in the Lord, and ac - cord - ing to His word,
 3. But He guides us with His eye and we'll fol - low till we die.
 4. And we won - der why the test when we try to do our best.

1. We will
 2. We will
 3. For we'll un - der - stand it bet - ter by and by, by and by.
 4. But we'll

By and by — when the morn - ing comes, When the saints of

God are gath - ered home, We'll tell the sto - ry

how we're o-ver-come; For we'll un-der-stand it bet-ter by and by, by and by.

All hymns and tunes are in the public domain. Research from Glover, Raymond F.: The Hymnal 1982 Companion, New York, The Church Hymnal Corporation, 1990; Westermeyer, Paul: Hymnal Companion to Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Minneapolis, Augsburg Fortress, 2010; and Young, Carlton R.: Companion to the United Methodist Hymnal, Nashville, Abingdon Press, 1993. Also many interesting web sites. Y'all should check them out sometime.