

**April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Choral Prelude: Herbert Howells – *A Hymn for St. Cecilia***

Sing for the morning's joy, Cecilia, sing,  
in words of youth and praises of the Spring,  
walk the bright colonnades by fountains' spray,  
and sing as sunlight fills the waking day;  
till angels, voyaging in upper air,  
pause on a wing and gather the clear sound  
into celestial joy, wound and unwound,  
a silver chain, or golden as your hair.

Sing for your loves of heaven and of earth,  
in words of music, and each word a truth;  
marriage of heart and longings that aspire,  
a bond of roses, and a ring of fire.  
Your summertime grows short and fades away,  
terror must gather to a martyr's death;  
but never tremble, the last indrawn breath  
remembers music as an echo may.

Through the cold aftermath of centuries,  
Cecilia's music dances in the skies;  
lend us a fragment of the immortal air,  
that with your choiring angels we may share,  
a word to light us thro' time-fettered night,  
water of life, or rose of paradise,  
so from the earth another song shall rise  
to meet your own in heaven's long delight.

All verses

1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a  
 2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a  
 3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a

way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all  
 light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in  
 joy as none can move; such a love as none can

strife; such a life as kill eth death.  
 length; such a strength as makes his guest.  
 part; such a heart as joys in love.

*Either version of the first measure may be used.*

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633)  
 Music: *The Call*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

♩ = 54  
 77. 77

The Hymnal 1982 - #379 God is Love, let heaven adore him

vv. 1-2

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let  
2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in  
3 God is Love; and though with blind - ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - jice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him  
one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,  
hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -  
ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are  
guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through  
break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that  
nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.  
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.  
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

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