

## 793 O Christ, the Healer



1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for  
 2 From ev - ery ail - ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies  
 3 How strong, O Lord, are our de - sires, how weak our  
 4 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og -  
 5 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com -



health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to  
 clam - or to be freed; yet in our hearts we  
 knowl - edge of our - selves! Re - lease in us those  
 nize the world's dis - ease; our com - mon life de -  
 mu - ni - ty may find the whole - ness that, en -



be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?  
 would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.  
 heal - ing truths un - con - scious pride re - sists or shelves.  
 clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?  
 rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This prayer for wholeness of body, mind, and spirit considers not only the infirmities of individuals but also those of localities, societies, and nations. In the midst of such widespread need, worshipping communities are called to continue Christ's healing work in the world.

## Why Has God Forsaken Me? 809



1 "Why has God for - sak - en me?" cried our Sav - ior from the cross  
2 At the tomb of Laz - a - rus Je - sus wept with o - pen grief:  
3 As his life ex - pired, our Lord placed him - self with - in God's care:  
4 Mys - tery shrouds our life and death but we need not be a - fraid,



as he shared the lone - li - ness of our deep - est grief and loss.  
grant us, Lord, the tears which heal all our pain and un - be - lief.  
at our dy - ing, Lord, may we trust the love which con - quers fear.  
for the mys - tery's heart is love, God's great love which Christ dis - played.

To offer an answer to this hymn's opening question, this New Zealand author leads us through events at the end of Jesus' life that help us grasp "the love which conquers fear." The tune, whose name is Japanese for "mystery," uses a five-tone Japanese scale to convey that quality.

TEXT: Bill Wallace, 1980

MUSIC: Taihei Sato, 1981

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## 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to  
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery  
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy  
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;  
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means “delightful”) gives us a foretaste of endless song.

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.