

Commentary on the Gospel for Mon, Feb 4th 2013

So today when I read the lessons, my reflection turned, as it often does, to music that touches me. The hymn that came to mind is “Great is the Faithfulness.” I include two links to that hymn, one modern and one traditional that I hope you will enjoy.

But I couldn't stop there. I was imagining what kind of call and response arrangement could be done with the Psalm today. In my church a soloist sings the verses and there is a response that the congregation sings. It is usually very lovely but not melodic, not something you would sing in a group with a piano or a guitar, which is the kind of music that sticks with me. So, as I often do, I decided to write something of my own. You don't have to listen to my tune here, you can imagine your own. I call it “Hope of the Faithful.”

Verse 1: The Lord has great goodness in store,

For those who fear and adore,

And for those who take refuge, yes, to those who take refuge,

The Lord shows them there is much more.

Chorus:

Let your hearts take comfort, all you who hope,

Take comfort and hope in the Lord.

Let your hearts take comfort, all you who hope,

Take comfort and hope in the Lord.

Verse 2: Take shelter along the rough road.

Rest safe while within your abode.

The strife of men's tongues, o strife of men's tongues,

Will not be thrust on your load.

Chorus:

Verse 3: The Lord will not send you away.

His mercy surrounds where you stay.

So cry out with pleading, so cry out with pleading.

The Lord will hear you today.

Chorus:

Verse 4: For those who remain faithful in love,

The Lord also keeps constant above.

So guard against pride, yes guard against pride

Be humble and meek as a dove.

Chorus:

Let your hearts take comfort, all you who hope,

Take comfort and hope in the Lord.

Let your hearts take comfort, all you who hope,

Take comfort and hope in the Lord.

It is my prayer with you today that whatever your troubles, that you can remain faithful and can take comfort and hope in the Lord. Amen.

Barbara Dilly