

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine 837

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

1 What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 2 O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-
 last-ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,
 last-ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last-ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,

Refrain

lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms. Lean-ing,
 Lean-ing on Je-sus,
 lean-ing, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean-ing
 lean-ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

The composer of the tune (and creator of the refrain) asked the author of the stanzas to write a hymn based on the latter part of Deuteronomy 33:27 (as worded in the King James Version): "Underneath are the everlasting arms." Their joint effort has proved very popular.

ADORATION

623 I've Got Peace like a River

1 I've got peace like a riv - er; I've got peace like a
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain; I've got joy like a
 3 I've got love like an o - cean; I've got love like an

riv - er; I've got peace like a riv - er, in my
 foun-tain; I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my
 o - cean; I've got love like an o - cean, in my

soul. I've got riv - er, in my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain, in my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean, in my soul.

In the King James Version, the promise of “peace like a river” is twice mentioned in Isaiah (48:18; 66:12) as a blessing that comes from doing God’s will. The water imagery of this African American spiritual also provides reminders of Christians’ baptismal identity.

There Is a Place of Quiet Rest 824

Near to the Heart of God

1 There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God,
 2 There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God,
 3 There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God,

a place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.
 a place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God.
 a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.

Refrain

O Jesus, blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God,

hold us, who wait before thee, near to the heart of God.

A Presbyterian campus pastor and choir director in Missouri wrote this simple but moving hymn in response to the death of two young nieces from diphtheria. By distilling such personal grief into the shared assurances of faith, these words have brought comfort to many.