Isaiah 65: 17-25

New Heavens and a New Earth

- 17 "See, I will create new heavens and a new earth.
 The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.
- ¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create,
- for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy.
- 19 I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more.
- ²⁰ "Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child; the one who fails to reach^[a] a hundred will be considered accursed.
- ²¹ They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
- No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat.
 For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands.
- ²³ They will not labor in vain, nor will they bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the LORD, they and their descendants with them.

Isaiah 65: 17-25 continued

- ²⁴ Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.
- ²⁵ The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, and dust will be the serpent's food.

They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain," says the LORD.

1 Corinthians 15:19-26 (NIV)

- ¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.
- ²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
- ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.
- ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.
- ²³ But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.
- ²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.
- ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Luke 24: 36-53

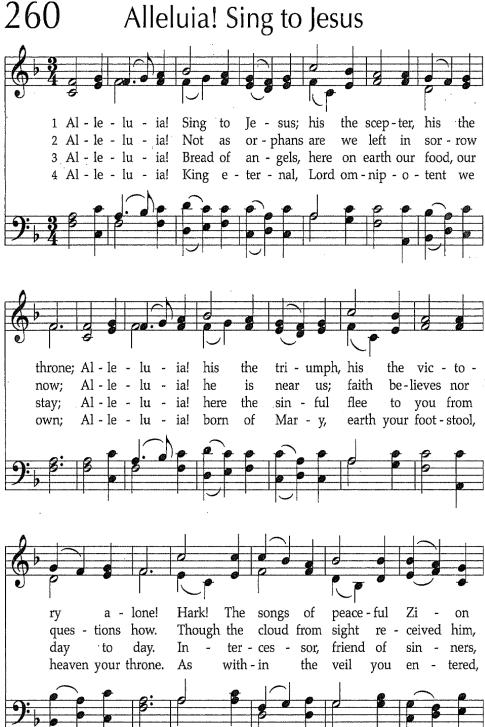
Jesus Appears to the Disciples

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." ⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence. ⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

The Ascension of Jesus

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.





The author regarded this text as a communion hymn, a theme that seems eclipsed by the attention to Christ's exaltation, but a helpful reminder that such hymns are not always quiet and meek. This text is sung to various tunes, but this rousing Welsh one is a favorite choice.

TEXT: William Chatterton Dix, 1866, alt. MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831, alt. HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D

