



"There's within my heart a melody. Jesus whispers sweet and low: Fear not, I am with thee, peace, be still, in all of life's ebb and flow."

Text & Music by Luther B. Bridgers

The words of the popular old gospel hymn cited above reveal the kind of fiber with which the Christian heart should be filled – melodies of love, hope, faith, and trust, and of friends dear and precious.

I have found it a blessing to reflect upon the melodies that have enriched my life. The vibrant voices of the people of St. Andrews Parish, young and old, are a source of warmth and strength to me in my daily walk. During my moments of sorrow or challenge, I recall those familiar voices and rejoice in God. Their shining faces are associated with thousands of little kindnesses they have afforded me without condition.

My surety of the promises of God are reinforced by the Sunday readings from the Scriptures of young voices whose association with the English language is measured often in months and not days, the beauty of music both sung and played by our youth - the melodious harmony of violin chords performed by our young ladies so wonderfully as to evoke the praise of Heaven, the organ and piano renditions of the beautiful old hymns of the church – these are my daily fare and sustenance.

It is upon each other that we Christians must lean in times of despair and hopelessness that reveals our own testimony and depth in Christ. We are each others angels to a certain degree.

The broader Communion of our fellow saints from around the globe combine together in joyous musical acclamation of the Creator God and His Glorious Son in time present, past and future.

Though we approach the Throne of Grace as individuals, we are thereafter united as One Body in Christ forever. We bear one another's burdens, share our common hurts and pains, and work together to reach those whose lives are steeped in seemingly impenetrable darkness.

It is the exalted and blessed melody that we bear in our hearts that distinguishes us visibly, and invisibly, as the people of God and members of His Glorious Church.

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