

Come Unto Me (7.6.7.6.D.)

From Handel

In his preface to "Church Hymns with Tunes", Sullivan writes "Adaptations from popular works are, as a rule, much to be deprecated, as presenting original compositions in garbled form only. But exceptions may occasionally be made with advantage, and the Editor accepts without any very grave apprehension, the responsibility of such an arrangement as, for instance, as "Come Unto Me", the original melody which it closely follows being so linked with the feeling of the words, that separation would seem almost unwarrantable."

Repeat the last two lines of each verse.

1 "Come unto Me, ye weary,
"And I will give you rest."
Oh, blessed voice of Jesus,
Which comes to hearts opprest!
It tells of benediction,
Of pardon, grace, and peace,
Of joy that hath no ending,
Of love which cannot cease.

2 "Come unto Me, ye wanderers,
And I will give you light."
Oh, loving voice of Jesus
Which comes to cheer the night!
Our hearts were filled with sadness,
And we had lost our way,
But morning brings us gladness,
And songs the break of day.

3 "Come unto Me, ye fainting,
"And I will give you life."
Oh, cheering voice of Jesus,
Which comes to aid our strife!
The foe is stern and eager,
The fight is fierce and long;
But Thou hast made us mighty,
And stronger than the strong.

4 "And whosoever cometh,
I will not cast him out."
Oh, welcome voice of Jesus,
Which drives away our doubt!
Which calls us, very sinners,
Unworthy though we be
Of love so free and boundless,
To come, dear Lord, to Thee! Amen.

William Chatterton Dix, 1837 - 98.