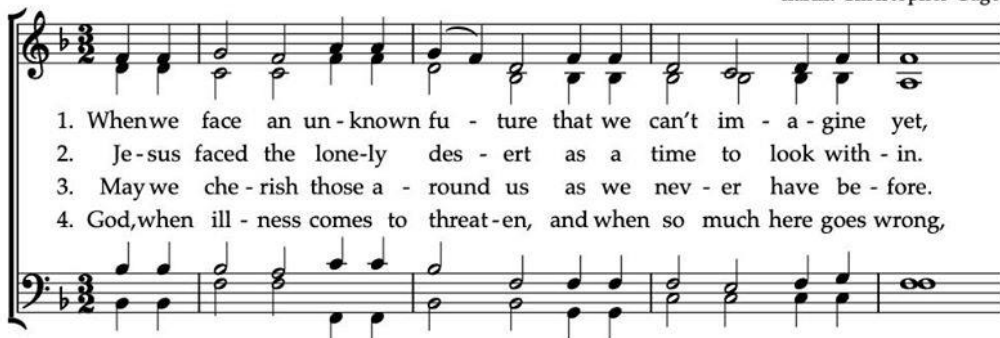


# When We Face an Unknown Future

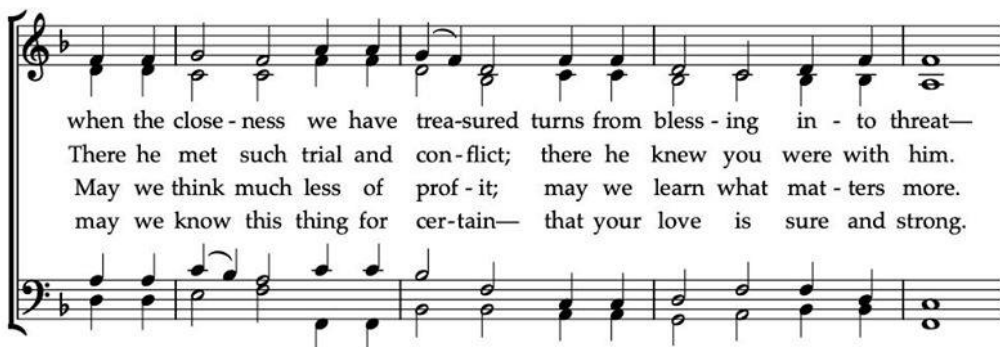
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2020

*Beach Spring*, attr. B. F. White;

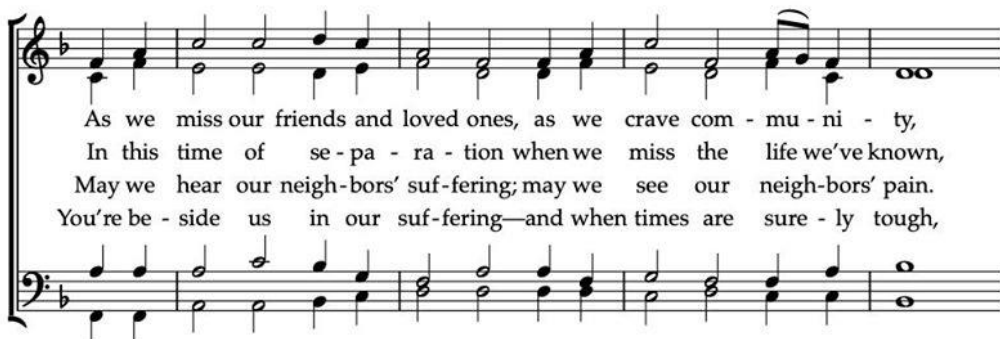
harm. Christopher Gage



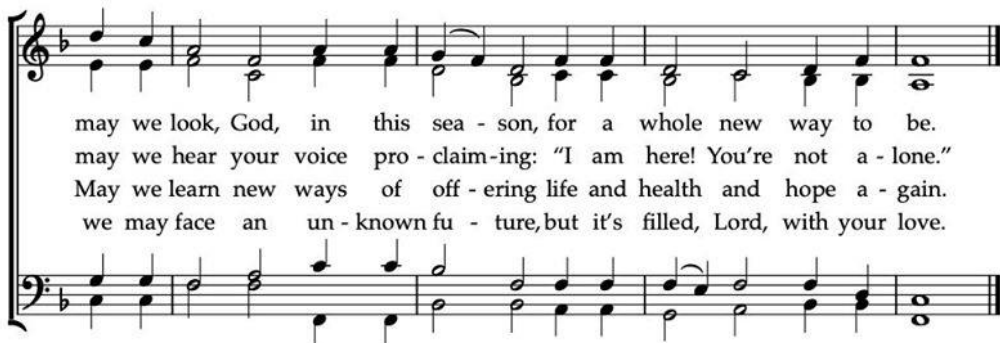
1. When we face an un-known fu-ture that we can't im-a-gine yet,  
2. Je-sus faced the lone-ly des-ert as a time to look with-in.  
3. May we che-rish those a-round us as we nev-er have be-fore.  
4. God, when ill-ness comes to threat-en, and when so much here goes wrong,



when the close-ness we have trea-sured turns from bless-ing in-to threat—  
There he met such trial and con-flict; there he knew you were with him.  
May we think much less of prof-it; may we learn what mat-ters more.  
may we know this thing for cer-tain— that your love is sure and strong.



As we miss our friends and loved ones, as we crave com-mu-ni-ty,  
In this time of se-pa-ra-tion when we miss the life we've known,  
May we hear our neigh-bors' suf-fering; may we see our neigh-bors' pain.  
You're be-side us in our suf-fering—and when times are sure-ly tough,



may we look, God, in this sea-son, for a whole new way to be.  
may we hear your voice pro-claim-ing: "I am here! You're not a-lone."  
May we learn new ways of off-ering life and health and hope a-gain.  
we may face an un-known fu-ture, but it's filled, Lord, with your love.

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# 687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)

1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our  
 2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy  
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or  
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are

hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the  
 saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine  
 earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing  
 like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that

storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
 arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
 thou art God, to end - less years the same.  
 ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,  
 bears all our years away;  
 they fly forgotten, as a dream  
 dies at the opening day.
- 6 Our God, our help in ages past,  
 our hope for years to come,  
 be thou our guard while life shall last,  
 and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.