



# Advance Memorial United Methodist Church

## *THE MESSENGER*

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### The Story Behind Hymn: "Take My Life & Let It Be Consecrated"

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Frances Ridely Havergal (1836-1879) has provided us with one of the classic hymns of Christian commitment.

Known as the "consecration poet," Havergal attempted to live a life fully consecrated to Christ and to those she saw in any physical or spiritual need.

We know that Havergal's spiritual journey began early in her life, memorizing passages in the Bible at age 4 and writing verse by age seven. She was nurtured by her father, an Anglican clergyman, also devoted to Christian hymnody.

Though Havergal's health was frail and she lived barely 43 years, she learned several modern languages as well as Hebrew and Greek. She was also a singer of some note and known as an accomplished pianist.

We have an account in her own words concerning the composition of "Take My Life" in 1874:

"I went for a little visit of five days [to Areley House]. There were ten persons in the house, some unconverted and long prayed for, some converted, but not rejoicing Christians. He gave me the prayer, "Lord, give me all in this house!" And He just did. Before I left the house every one had got a blessing. The last night of my visit after I had retired, the governess asked me to go to the two daughters. They were crying, etc.; then and there both of them trusted and rejoiced; it was nearly midnight. I was too happy to sleep, and passed most of the night in praise and renewal of my own consecration; and these little couplets formed themselves, and chimed in my heart one after another till they finished with 'Ever, Only, ALL for Thee!'"

This hymn of total consecration to Christ seems to cover every aspect of surrender to him. The original text appears originally in six 4-line stanzas.

In *The United Methodist Hymnal*, two stanzas are combined to produce three longer ones. Each line begins with the imperative verb "Take," giving the sense of an incessant prayer of petition.

Many musical settings of this hymn are in common usage. In some, the last line is repeated, increasing the time that the singer has to reflect upon the commitment he or she is making.

The hymn appeared first in Charles Snapp's *Songs of Grace and Glory* (1876) under the heading "2 Sam. 19:30. 'Yes, let Him take all,'" according to the late Methodist hymnologist and Southern Methodist University seminary professor Fred Gealy.

Each stanza explores more deeply what it means to surrender to Christ. The first stanza consecrates the singer's life and moments, as well as physical body -- hands and feet.

*Continued on Page 3...*



## Sunday Worship Services

*Sunday Worship Services* are **11:00 am** in the *Sanctuary* and **6:00 pm** in the *Family Life Center (Gym)*. We are asking people to: sit with members of your household, and practice the social distancing.

We also need *volunteers* to help us run the technology

equipment. If you are interested in learning to run any technology devices please contact the church office.

We could offer more morning services if we had more volunteers willing to be trained on technology.

In the event we need more seating in the Sanctuary, we do have seating available in the Laura Ward Sunday School Classroom, across the hallway from the Sanctuary.

*Pastor Sean Shrall*

## Upcoming Events

**Methodist Women** will meet **Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm** in the **Fellowship Hall**, (basement).

**Council on Ministries** will meet **Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**. (This will be a Zoom meeting.)

**Adult Bible Study:** meets **Wednesdays at 7:00 pm** on the Church Website (advance church.net) & Facebook.

**Children's Ministry:** We meet **Sundays, 11:15 am** and **Wednesdays at 7:00 pm**. If you would like to volunteer, please call the church office.

**Oakmont** meets **Mondays. Singing 2:45 pm and service at 3:15 pm.**

**Youth Group:** meets **Wednesdays at 6:30 pm!**

**\*Facebook:** Advance SURGE Youth Group

**\*Instagram account:** SURGE Advance Youth Ministry (@surgeadvance)

**REMIND:** To join, **Text@advance you to 81010**



## Good Things Are Costly

In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. —John 16:33

You should not expect the easy way, for if you do you are certainly destined for disappointment. Any person who knows the Bible knows that the Christian life is likened to an athletic contest or to warfare, and neither one is easy. Jesus warned His followers to count carefully the cost, and that certainly does not speak of an easy way. But there is no good thing that

comes without cost.

The Christian life is the most satisfying, but only when we actually go all out and all the way. It is the Christian who tries to compromise who finds life miserable, for he has all the problems, without the fellowship that comes through surrender. For every trial and test, Christ supplies an abundance of grace with which to bear

it, and in our weakness we are made strong.

### Prayer for the day

Let me never look for the easy way when You, Lord Jesus, gave everything for me.

*from the Billy Graham Evangelist Association Daily Devotion*



## Inspirational Thanksgiving

Although we all know that God is always with us to guide us throughout our lives and for that we are all thankful to Him. But the Thanksgiving Day is meant to inspire all of us

to remember the Lord and give Him thanks for all that He has done for us. We thank Him for the sweet family, for the delicious dinner, for the turkey and for all other things that He

has blessed us with. This 'giving thanks to the Lord' is the very spirit of the thanksgiving celebrations. God has always been there for us and on the Thanksgiving Day we

Day we let Him realize that we also care for Him and love Him.

**Ashthe**

*Source: Short Thanksgiving Stories*

## Psalms 14 (KJV)

<sup>1</sup> The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.

<sup>3</sup> They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

<sup>5</sup> There were they in great fear: for God is in the generation of the righteous.

<sup>-7</sup> Oh that the salvation of Israel were come out of Zion! When the LORD bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

<sup>2</sup> The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God.

<sup>4</sup> Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people as they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD is his refuge.



## “Take My Life & Let It Be...” *Continued*

The second stanza may be somewhat autobiographical in light of Havergal's vocal abilities, consecrating her voice and lips. The stanza continues with personal possessions, silver and gold, as well as intellect.

The final stanza explores those personal attributes at the very core of one's being -- will, heart, love and self.

Often used in congregations during the stewardship emphasis, Havergal lived what she preached in her hymns. In 1878 she wrote to a friend, "The

Lord has shown me another little step, and, of course, I have taken it with extreme delight. 'Take my silver and my gold' now means shipping off all my ornaments to the church Missionary House, including a jewel cabinet that is really fit for a countess, where all will be accepted and disposed of for me. . . . I don't think I ever packed a box with such pleasure."

*Source: Dr. Hawn is director of the sacred music program at Perkins School of Theology.*

## Getting Married!

A young couple came into the church office to fill out a pre-marriage questionnaire form.....

The young man, who had never talked to a pastor before, was quite nervous and the pastor tried to put him at ease...

When they came to the question, "Are you entering this marriage of your own free will?".....

There was a long pause. Finally, the girl looked over at the apprehensive young man and said, "Put down 'Yes.'"

*From: The Best 67 Pastor Jokes*

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## ADVANCE MEMORIAL

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## A Heartwarming Thanksgiving Story

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which said: "I am blind, please help."

There were only a few coins in the hat.

A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words.

Soon the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy. That afternoon the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were.

The boy recognized his footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?"

The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a different way." I wrote: "Today is a beautiful day but I cannot see it."

Both signs told people that the boy was blind. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind. The second sign told people that they were so lucky that they were not blind. Should we be surprised that the second sign was more effective?

Moral of the Story: Be thankful for what you have. Be creative. Be innovative. Think differently and positively. When life gives you a 100 reasons to cry, show life that you have 1000 reasons to smile. Face your past without regret. Handle your present with confidence. Prepare for the future without fear. Keep the faith and drop the fear.

The most beautiful thing is to see a person smiling. And even more beautiful, is knowing that you are the reason behind it!

*Happy Thanksgiving to all!*  
*Author: Unknown*

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