

**Half an Hour of Hymns - July 12, 2020**  
**Celebrating the Bible!**

**#500 - Open my eyes, that I may see**

Open my eyes, that I may see  
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
place in my hands the wonderful key  
that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see;  
open my eyes: illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear  
voices of truth thou sendest clear,  
and while the wave-notes fall on my ear,  
everything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see;  
open my ears: illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear  
gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
open my heart and let me prepare  
love with thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for thee,  
ready, my God, thy will to see;  
open my heart: illumine me, Spirit divine!

**#507 – Break now the bread of life**

Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
as once you broke the loaves beside the sea:  
beyond the sacred page I seek you, Lord:  
my spirit longs for you, O living Word.

You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me;  
your holy word is truth redeeming me.  
Give me to eat and live with you above;  
teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Oh send your Spirit now, dear Lord, to me;  
touch now my blinded eyes and make me see:

then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall,  
and I shall find my peace, my all in all.

**#496 - Thy word is a lamp unto my feet**

*Refrain:* Thy word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path.  
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,  
still you're there right beside me,  
and nothing will I fear as long as you are near.  
Please be near me to the end. *Refrain*

I will not forget your love for me, and yet  
my heart forever is wandering.  
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side,  
and I will love you to the end. *Refrain*

**#498 - Sing them over again to me**

Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life;  
let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life;  
words of life and beauty, teach me faith and duty.

*Refrain:*  
*Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life,*  
*beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.*

Christ, the blessed one, give to all, wonderful words of life;  
sinner, list to the loving call, wonderful words of life;  
all so freely given, wooing us to heaven. *Refrain*

Sweetly echo the gospel call, wonderful words of life;  
offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life;  
Jesus, only Saviour, sanctify forever. *Refrain*

**#499 - Tell me the old, old story**

Tell me the old, old story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
Tell me the story simply, as to a little child,  
for I am weak and weary, and helpless and defiled.

*Refrain:* Tell me the old, old story; tell me the old, old story;  
tell me the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

Tell me the story slowly, that I may take it in,  
that wonderful redemption, God's remedy for sin.  
Tell me the story often, for I forget so soon;  
the early dew of morning has passed away at noon. *Refrain*

Tell me the story softly, with earnest tones and grave;  
remember I'm the sinner whom Jesus came to save.  
Tell me the story always, if you would really be,  
in any time of trouble, a comforter to me. *Refrain*

Tell me the same old story, when you have cause to fear  
that this world's empty glory is costing me too dear.  
Yes, and when that world's glory is dawning on my soul,  
tell me the old, old story: Christ Jesus makes thee whole.

*Refrain*

#508 - Your word, O God, awoke the uncreated

Your word, O God, awoke the uncreated;  
brought form from chaos, out of darkness, light,  
till life, by silent ages long awaited,  
displayed its growing beauty in your sight.  
In field and forest, ocean, air and river,  
our eyes beheld your creatures very good,  
and, quickened by your breath, almighty giver,  
your human image in your presence stood.

Your word, O God, awoke prophetic voices  
on Carmel's height, and Judah's rocky hills;  
the great Isaiah's ardent soul rejoices,  
and Jeremiah's tortured bosom thrills.  
To sage and psalmist comes your inspiration,  
in song sublime and wisdom's subtle page,  
and in the law and records of a nation,  
your word, O God, speaks on from age to age.

Your word, O God, took flesh for our salvation,  
and we beheld his glory, truth and grace;  
he brings the gospel of our liberation,  
the tidings of your mercy light his face.

In healing deeds of love and holy story  
we hear the music of your gracious name:  
still more, his Cross and resurrection glory  
the sovereign triumphs of your love proclaim.

Now speak again your word unto the nations,  
in all the fullness of your Spirit's power,  
and as your voice woke former generations,  
declare your purpose for this present hour.  
Oh speak to smite, to cleanse and to renew us;  
your church awaits the judgement of your sword,  
until with power your Spirit shall endue us  
to give the world the Gospel of our Lord.

#497 - Word of God, across the ages

Word of God, across the ages  
comes your message to our life,  
source of hope, forever present  
in our toil and fears and strife,  
constant witness to God's mercy,  
still our grace, what e'er befall,  
guide unfailing, strength eternal, offered freely to us all.

Story of our wondrous journey  
from the shadows of the night,  
garnered truth of sage and prophet,  
guiding forward into light,  
words and deeds of Christ our teacher  
pointing to the life and way,  
still appealing, still inspiring, in the struggles of today.

In the tongues of all the peoples  
may the message bless and heal,  
as devout and patient scholars  
more and more its depths reveal.  
Bless, O God, to wise and simple,  
all your truth of ageless worth,  
till all lands receive the witness  
and your knowledge fills the earth.