

Sheltered by God's Loving Spirit

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Deborah Patterson. 1993

1 Cor. 13:4-13; Rom. 5:8



1 Shel-tered by God's lov - ing Spir - it, gath-ered here we share our grief:
 2 Giv - en breath by God's own pur-pose, back to God our breath does go.



Seek-ing so-lace, seek-ing cour-age— know-ing God does bring re - lief.
 Life e - ter - nal in our pres - ent here we on - ly part - ly know.



We are free to name our sor-rows, speak our an - ger, weep our loss,
 But for-give-ness, love, and cour-age show us God's a - maz - ing grace,



For our God did suf - fer al - so when Christ died up - on a cross.
 Strength-en us to face the jour-ney till we know God face to face.

Reflecting on the love she had experienced while going through deep pain, Deborah Patterson wrote this text for the funeral of a parishioner at St. John's United Church of Christ in Smithton, Illinois, while serving as minister.

Tune: BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.
 John Zundel, 1855

We Are Your People

Brian Wren, 1973: rev. 1993

Unison

1 We are your peo - ple: Spir - it of grace,
 2 Joined in com - mu - ni - ty, trea - sured and fed,
 3 Rich in di - ver - si - ty, help us to live
 4 Glad of tra - di - tion, help us to see

you dare to make us Christ to our neigh - bors
 may we dis - cov - er gifts in each oth - er,
 clos - er than neigh - bors, o - pen to strang - ers,
 in all life's chang - ing, where Christ is lead - ing,

1 & 6 *Last time, end* 2-5

of ev - ery cul - ture and place. lead and be led.
 will - ing to clash and for - give.
 a - ble to ef - forts should be.
 where our best

5 Give, as we ven - ture
 jus - tice and care
 (peace - ful, in - sist - ing,
 risk - ing, re - sist - ing),
 wis - dom to know when and where.

6 Spir - it, u - nite us,
 make us, by grace,
 will - ing and read - y,
 Christ's liv - ing bod - y,
 lov - ing the whole hu - man race.

Originally written in 1973 for the hymnal of the United Reformed Church in England and Wales, New Church Praise, this text was revised by Brian Wren in 1993. The tune is named for the composer's father-in-law, who served as chair of the Congregational Union of England and Wales

Tune: WHITFIELD Irv.
 John Wilson, 1975

Colorful Creator

Ruth Duck, 1992

Unison

1 Col-or-ful Cre - a - tor, God of mys - ter - y,
 2 Har-mo-ny of a - ges, God of lis - tening ear,
 3 Au-thor of our jour - ney, God of near and far,
 4 God of truth and beau - ty, Po - et of the Word,

thank you for the art - ist teach - ing us to see glimps - es of the
 thank you for com - pos - ers tun - ing us to hear ech - oes of the
 praise for tale and dra - ma tell - ing who we are, strip - ping to the
 may we be cre - a - tors by the Spir - it stirred, o - pen to your

mean - ing of the com - mon - place, vi - sions of the
 Gos - pel in the songs we sing, sounds of love and
 es - sence strug - gles of our day, times of change and
 pres - ence in our joy and strife, ves - sels of the

ho - ly in each hu - man face.
 long - ing from the deep - est spring.
 con - flict when we choose our way.
 ho - ly cours - ing through our life.

This hymn was written for the 1992 installation of Linda Clark as Houghton Scholar of Sacred Music at Boston University, where Ruth Duck earned her Th.D. degree. It praises the Artist who inspires our creativity.

Tune: HOUGHTON 11.11.11.11.
 Carlton R. Young, 1992