

The Wonder of It All: Morning Has Broken

By Mark Jurkovich

One recent Sunday, our organist chose to play the hymn “Morning Has Broken” for the Invocation. I decided to follow along, so found it in the hymnal and read the lyrics as he played. The words came alive for me that day. I never paid close enough attention to them before. I can imagine the author waking up one morning, thanking God for a beautiful sunrise, and trying to imagine what it must have been like that first morning; on the day the Lord rested from all His work of creation week (Gen. 2:2).

The experience of a glorious morning can hearken us back to that first morning, when everything was still “very good”. Read the lyrics below and try to imagine yourself on that first morning, and let it fill you with worship of the one who gave us this wonderous creation; and even gave us dominion over His amazing world.

Morning has broken like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing
Praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from
the Word (*some versions have “world”*)

Imagine that first morning for Adam and Eve, before they fell into sin. There must have been a symphony of praise from the animals to wake them up! I have always enjoyed hearing the songbirds through an open window in the morning. Just a tiny taste of what it must have been like that first morning.

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from
heaven
Like the first dewfall on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass

“But a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground” Gen 2:6. We do not know if this is how the earth was watered all the way up to the flood. But however the earth was watered before the fall, it was surely gentle and not destructive. Enjoying a gentle rain today, or seeing drops glisten-



ing on the grass is just another taste of the beauty that must have been on that first day.

Mine is the sunlight
Mine is the morning
Born of the one light Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning
God's recreation of the new day

How often do I wake up in the morning without praise on my lips! May I learn to praise Him every morning with elation at God's re-creation of the new day!

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man

that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him? For You have made him a little lower than the angels, and You have crowned him with glory and honor. You have

made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; (Psalm 8:3-6, NKJV)

Ref: <https://www.godtube.com/popular-hymns/morning-has-broken/>

Lyrics by Eleanor Farjeon, traditional Gaelic melody, BMG Rights Management US, LLC, published 1931. (*Used in accordance with federal copyright (fair use doctrine) law; for educational purpose*)

Photos by Mark Jurkovich

